THE PRINCESS OF FESS: OR, THE AMOURS of the COURT of MOROCCO. A Novel.

In Two Parts.

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TO
HER GRACE
The DUTCHESS of
RICHMOND, &c.

May it please
Your Grace,

NO *sooner was the Princess of* Fels *ready to appear in publick on our* English *World, but ambitious to Kiss Your Graces hands.*

she is come to claim the protection of Your Illustrious Name, not without all imaginable hopes of finding a favourable reception from that Person, whose qualities are observ'd with such admiration, by those of the first rank in Vivacity of Wit and Profoundness of Judgment, who have Unanimously voted, that it is as easie for the distressed to find a Sanctuary in the Arms of Your Graces generous Safeguard, as it is

difficult

difficult to be supply'd with apt expressions to set forth Your Graces perfections.

For my part, Madam, the Knowledge of my own deficiency has been a Sovereign antidote against the vanity of endeavouring such an **Herculian** labour on my own bottom, and of attempting those impossibilities, and when I have gone to borrow from the most exquisite of the Ancients Panegyricks, I have found all so short from Your

Graces Merits, that looking down with Contempt on those little things which the Modern Writers have used in the setting forth of Your Graces Virtues, I have avoyded the presamption, and rested Contented with the Honour of Subscribing my self,

May it please Your Grace,

Your Graces most Humble and most Obedient Servant,

P. BELLO

THE PRINCESS OF FESS.

PART I.

THE *Arabian* Empire has been one of the most flourishing of the World, both by the Duration and the Large Extent of it. Its Principal Seat was in *Africa*, though it has likewise possessed Large Territories in the other parts of the World.

It was not without divers considerable changes, that it Flourished so long, and which have caused its decay; amongst which, there happened an alteration about 150 years since, which for some time did raise their Reputation.

The Family of the *Benimerignis* having enjoy'd the Throne for a long time, and possessed the Empire with Splendor and Dignity, did thereby restore unto it that Lustre in which it had formerly been under the *Almanzors*: But having at last torn one another in pieces through Partialities, they were driven from thence, in the beginning of the late Age, by the *Cherifs*; which name is assumed by all those that pretend to be of Kin unto *Mahomet*, and is of great use to those that bear it, to attract the veneration of that People, who are the most superstitious of the World.

The *Cherifs* having rendred themselves formidable by that Mor-

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tal War which they made againſt the *Portugais*, and having almoſt driven them out of *Africa*, they gained ſo much the Love of theſe Nations, that they eaſily did deſtroy the *Benimerignis*, which were then the Maſters of *Mauritania*, and they poſſeſſed themſelves alſo of divers other Parts of *Africa*.

Mahomet Cherif did reunite all their former Authority in his own Perſon, and did enjoy, even unto an extream old Age, one of the greateſt Empires of the World. His Succeſſors had eaſily preſerved it, if they had not had more than Foreign Enemies to Combate: But being at variance amongſt themſelves, that vaſt Empire was in our time divided into ſeveral Parcels. *Feſs*, which had been the chief City of the whole Empire, had its particular Kings, which were not acknowledged by the reſt of *Africa*: *Morocco* had its Sovereigns; the Kingdoms of *Tremeſon*,

of *Sus*, and of *Tarudant*, had theirs also, and acknowledged none other: And in a Word, divers Petty Princes did posses all those vast Territories, which in former times yielded obedience but unto one only.

Bembuca King of *Fes*, and *Gayland* Prince of *Sus*, had rendred themselves formidable to all the others, through that Bloody War which they made against their Neighbours, or through the Jars which they had betwixt themselves, which they always decided by Arms, and the advantage of which did frequently remain on *Bembuca*'s side. Though *Bembuca* was extream Cruel towards his Enemies, there never was a more kind Father. The Prince of *Fes*, and the Princess *Alzira*, his Children, were so dear unto him, that he would continually have them in his presence, and it was with great difficulty that he would bear their absence some

ſome hours of the day in order to their Education: He would never grant any requeſts but at the prayers of one or the other of them; and moſt particularly at the recomdations of *Alzira*, who always employ'd her ſelf in the behalf of the unfortunate. She had a delicate and an advantageous Shape. Her Eyes were blew and full, her Air was Majeſtick, mixed with ſtore of Sweetneſs, and with ſuch inſinuating Actions, that it was impoſſible to behold her without ſome concern for her Perſon. Her Beauty, which made a great noiſe throughout all *Africa*, had already ingaged divers Princes to demand her of her Father, who not being able to reſolve on the abſence of a Daughter ſo lovely as his, did always avoid the Marrying of her, under the pretence, that he believed her yet too Young. *Gayland* would once have Wedded her himſelf, but there was ſo little pro-

portion betwixt the Ages of *Alzira* and of that Prince, who had been Marryed twice before, that *Bembuca* had rejected the Propoſals with anger; which contempt had contributed very much in the renewing of the War betwen thoſe two Princes.

Gayland, who was Childleſs, had a Young Prince of the Houſe of the *Cherifs*, a Kinſman of his, brought up at his Court, who had an equal right on the Kingdom of *Feſs*, and on the Principality of *Suſs*. At firſt he had not taken care of his Education, but to have one day a pretence to drive *Bembuca* out of the Kingdom of *Feſs*, if at any time he ſhould get an advantage over him by force of Arms. But *Ali Hamet* (that was the name of the Young *Cherif*) had ſomething ſo admirable in his Perſon, and had rendred himſelf ſo complaiſant to all *Gayland*'s deſires, that he had intirely won his favour. Never had

had any Prince a more piercing Wit, a Mind more bent unto great Enterprises, and who did more passionatly love Arms. *Gayland*, who did sometimes send him into the Field, was surprised to to hear him discourse on all the particulars thereof, with the same exactness as an experimented Commander would do. He had been brought up in so great an aversion against *Bembuca*, that he was continually discoursing of the means which he should use to drive away that Usurper. And being very desirous of knowledge, he would take great delight in entertaining of Strangers. A certain *English* Captive, named *Talbot*, had so well taken his measures on his Princes Curiosity, that he was preferr'd by him in his conversation before all others. *Talbot* would never speak to him but of Armies, of Mortar-pieces, Grenados, Canons, and generally of all those things that

the Princes of *Europe* uſe in War. He would inform him, that for the eaſie taking of a place, it was requiſite to know both the Strength and Weakneſs of it, to attaque it at thoſe places which were the eaſieſt to overcome. *Ali Hamet* did take a ſingular delight in hearing the Slaves reaſonings, and in reducing all that he ſaid unto thoſe deſigns, and to that hatred which he had againſt *Bembuca*; he fancied that if he could ſee the Fortifications of the City of *Feſs*, which was Capital of the Kingdom of that name, he ſhould have the leſs difficulties in rendring himſelf Maſter of it, whenever he ſhould beſiege it, as he hoped he ſhould one day. He expreſſed to *Talbor* the extream deſire which he had to go in a diſguiſe to *Feſs*, with him, and obſerve that City. *Talbor* would have diſwaded him, telling him, that without expoſing of himſelf unto the ſucceſs of an

Enterprise so dangerous as that, it would not be hard to get a Draught of that Place, and to observe all its defects. But *Ali Hamet*, who did not comprehend how that could be done on paper, gave the Slave to understand, that the business was of such a concern as would invite him to see the reality of it with his own Eyes, though there were never so much danger in the enterprise. *Talbor* durst not contradict him any longer. The next day *Ali Hamet* absented himself from his Uncle, under other pretences, and having disguised himself in a mean habit, he set forwards towards *Fess*, followed by *Talbor*, and a *Marabout*, (those are *Mahometan Monks*, under whose safeguard one may travel with great safety.) After a long march they arrived at *Fess*, where *Ali Hamet* did apply himself with a World of diligence to observe the Situation of that City, and those

Posts that were fortified. He was walking on the *Rampart*, when there passed by him a certain kind of Chariot, drawn by *Arabian* Horses. The Prince having observed some Ladies in it magnificently dressed, had the curiosity to see their Faces, but it was impossible for him to have that satisfaction, by reason of the distance, and that the Ladies had their Backs turn'd towards him; he contented himself with following them at a distance. Scarce had he made Twenty steps forwards, when he heard a great noise of confused voices, which obliged him to double his pace towards the Chariot. Lions are very common at *Fess*, and divers persons keep of them: One of the biggest size had broke loose from his Masters House, and was walking quietly on the *Rampart*, as the Chariot was going by; the Horses were affrighted at it, and set themselves a running, notwithstanding

all

all that the Coachman could do to ſtop them. The Lyon perceiving them to run, failed not to follow. A company of People, who knew the nature of Lyons, who equally become furious, when they are purſued, or that they ſee any thing to flie before them, did cry out at a diſtance, to have the driver ſtop his Horſes. Mean time the Chariot was overturned, and the Lyon was already exerciſing his fury on the Horſes, not one perſon daring to approach near him; when that *Ali Hamet* came up, who ſeeing fear and diſpair ſpread over the Ladies Faces, did preſently go about to aſſiſt them all; and having perceived that there was one which was eaſily to be diſtinguiſhed from the reſt by her beauty and the magnificency of her dreſs, he buſied himſelf chiefly in ſetting her our of danger. But the Chariot was overturned in ſuch a manner,

ner, that it was impoſſible to aſſiſt her, without expoſing her to the fury of the Lyon. *Ali Hamet* in that extreamity conſulted nothing but his Courage; and having drawn his Cimiter, he attaqued the Lyon with great Valour, and with a blow of his Cimiter he wounded him very dangerouſly on the Head. The Lyon roaring with rage, was going to tear in pieces the Perſon that had wounded him: But *Ali Hamet* not being daunted, did courageouſly reſiſt him, and wounded him in ſo many different places, that he put him out of Combate.

After this happy ſucceſs, he drew near unto that Lady who had appeared ſo beautiful to him, and ſent her his Hand to help her out of that place. The Lady, who was already ſtruck with aſtoniſhment at the ſurpriſing Valour of her Deliverer, had then leaſure to admire his good meen, and to return him thanks

thanks in terms that were full of acknowledgments. *Ali Hamet*, who had never seen so beautiful a Person, did at that instant feel some ceratin motions, of which he had been ignorant all his life time. A great number of Persons of all sorts and conditions that came thither, gave *Ali Hamet* to understand, that she who he had so happily rescued was the Princess of *Fess*, which obliged him to behold her again with the more attention: But he enjoyed not long that pleasure, for *Alzira* was in an instant encompassed round with Ladies, who conducted her back to the Palace to consolate *Bembuca*, who had newly been advertised of that misfortune. *Ali Hamet* was in so great an admiration at the surprising Beauty of the Princess, that he mixed himself with the Crowd of those that follow'd, scarce knowing what he was doing. *Talbor*, who had not had his Eyes off of him, foreseeing

seeing that *Bembuca* would cause a search to be made after that Person that had rendred so great a Service to his Daughter, did advise him to retire in haste, lest he should be known. The Prince was unwilling, as having no mind to distance himself from the charming *Alzira*, who he hoped to see again. But *Talbot* did so well represent to him those Evils which he was to fear if *Bembuca* should come to know him, that his Love, which was but just budding, had not power sufficient to hinder him from following the Counsels of his faithful Slave. They went to rejoin the *Marabout*, who was staying for them at the City Gates, and got away from *Fes* with great diligence. Mean time *Alzira*, who had her Idea fill'd with her generous Protector, and who did already feel in her self something more than a bare acknowledgment, did conjure her Father to

to ſend for him, and give him a recompence ſuitable to that ſervice which he had ſo lately rendred her. *Bembuca*, who deſired to know ſo Valiant a Perſon, gave orders for a ſearch. His cares were fruitleſs, no body knew him, and though that all thoſe who had ſeen the Combate, did ſpeak of him with admiration, there was not one found that knew who he was. New perquiſitions were again made, but ſtill with the ſame ſucceſs. Mean time there being daily ſome new circumſtance of his Valour mentioned, that buſineſs did much contribute to attract the Veneration of the People on *Bembuca*, and his Family; for he had the ſubtilty to publiſh, that their Prophet *Mahomet*, perceiving a Princeſs of the Blood of the *Cherifs*, and his Relation, in ſo eminent a danger, he had come in Perſon himſelf to deliver her, and had diſappeared preſently after ſo brave an Action.

Action. The People of that Country are very superstitious; that made them give credit to the Story, the noise of which was presently spread far and near throughout all the Kingdom of *Fess*, and all the World did speak of it, as of a miracle. What Glory soever it was for the Princess to have been assisted by the pretended Prophet, her Heart had some repugnancy to believe the publick opinion; and every time that she did reflect on the good meen of her Deliverer, she did wish, at least, that there were some Mortal that did resemble him; while that her Modesty did oblige her to conceal her resentments. But when she was in private with *Balsora* (who was one of her Women that she much affected) *Balsora* made no difficulty to own, that she had rather have ow'd her life unto some *African* Prince, than to the Great *Mahomet*. But *Alzire*,

who

who had her Mind continually fill'd with an Idea of the Strangers good meen, did not agree to that, and did so often represent his Picture after so advantageous a manner, that *Balabat* was obliged to acquiess, that all the Princes of *Africa* did not come near in good meen unto him that had preserved her life.

Ali Hamet, who was return'd to *Sus*, did lead so private a life, that all the World were surpri-sed at so sudden a change. *Al-zira*'s Beauty, those Words which she had said to him, and a Charming and Majestick Air which he had never seen in any other Person, did continually come into his Mind. He delighted to be alone, that he might freely spend his thoughts on his ami-able Princess, and he continually did prefer the Slave *Talbor*'s con-versation unto that of the great-est Lords of *Sus*. What a fatal

Journey

Journey have we had; *said he to him*? while I did design to have drawn from thence great advantages against *Bembuca*, I have lost myself, I love the Princess, I confess it to thee; but what will now become of me? *Bembuca*, who possesses a Throne that is mine, has doubtless confirm'd her in sentiments of hatred and aversion against me; so that I must never hope to make her sensible of my Love, seeing that I cannot so much as see her to inform her of it; she will never hear any thing concerning me, but either to my Glory or to my Shame; the one and the other are dangerous to me, and will equally draw her anger on me; for if I have any advantage over *Bembuca*, she will doubtless hate the Enemy of her Father; and if I am vanquished, she will have a contempt for a miserable Prince. *Talbot* did endeavour to comfort him, in representing, that a Peace might be concluded

cluded in some short time between the King of *Fess* and the Prince of *Suss*; and that he being of the Blood of the *Cherifs*, it might not be impossible but that he should one day Espouse the Princess of *Fess*. But *Alis Hamet* did think his reasons too weak, and too far fetch'd; he was for more practicable means wherewith to serve his Love. And whereas he looked upon *Talbot* more as a Friend than a Slave, he did put him in mind, that seeing that he had been ingaged in the undertaking of this Voyage, which he durst not call fatal, though he had lost his liberty in it, he ought also to give him some expedients whereby to inform the Princess of his passion. *Talbot*, who did find him to be deeply in Love, and who knew by experience what strange disturbances Love does cause, did offer to go to *Fess*, to introduce himself into *Bembuca's* favour, under pretence of teaching him the use

of

of Fire-Balls and Canons, and by those means endeavour if it were possible, to inform the Princess of those sentiments which he had for her. *Ali Hamet* was so satisfied with that proposition, that he offerr'd no longer the affranchising of *Talbor*, thereby to engage him the more to serve him, with the greater affection, towards *Alzira*. After that he had caused those Passes to be dispatched which were necessary for the security of his Journey, he conjur'd him with Embraces not to spare either Care or Charges in giving him news of his Princess with all diligence imaginable.

Talbor being arrived at *Fess*, did endeavour to introduce himself at Court, giving out, that he had left the Service of a great Prince of *Europe* to apply himself unto *Bembuca*'s Service, whose Merit and Valour had been made known to him by an *English* Officer of *Tangire*, who had Sojourn'd for some

time

time at *Fes*. Such a probable discourse did presently flatter *Bembuca*'s Vanity: But those experiments which *Talbot* made in his presence with Gun-powder, whose different and various effects were unknown to the *Moors*, did absolutely incline him to take him into his Service. The King desired also that he should make some Fireworks to divert the Princess, who was become very Melancholy of late. Those happy beginnings did make him hope that he should shortly be in a condition to render some Services of importance unto *Ali Hamet*. Most part of Courtiers love Novelties; divers young Persons of the Court did express their great desires to be acquainted with this Stranger. *Talbot* answer'd their Wills with respect, and having observed that the rest of the Gentry had some deference for a young Cavalier named *Maucaden*, he had the Curiosity to learn on

what

what account; he was inform'd, that his own merits did much contribute towards the receiving those respects, and that he was also consider'd as being the Brother to *Balabai*, the Princess *Alzira*'s Favorite. That last reason did oblige *Talbor* to shew him a great respect. *Mancadem* did give him in sundry occasions some particular marks of his esteem, and also promis'd to mention him to his Sister. Which he performed so well, that his good Offices had like to have prov'd fatal to him: for *Balabai*, to oblige her Brother, did so highly extol *Talbor*'s good qualities to the Princess, that she desired to have him in her Service. *Alzira* spoke of it to the King, who granted her that favour, and gave order that *Talbor* should be made an *Eunuque*, that he might be in a condition to serve the Princess, because that the *Eunuques* only have that privi-ledge. All those mean sorts of

persons

persons that envy those sorts of Emploies which put them in a condition of having great Preferments, and of raising their Friends and Relations, do patiently suffer themselves to be made *Eunuques*, in order to those great advantages that they hope from thence. *Maucaden* having learned of his Sister the resolution which the King had taken of making *Talbot* so, to dispose of him afterwards to the Princess, was willing to be the first that should inform him of his good Fortune, and immediately went to joy him of it. *Talbot* extreamly surprised with a compliment of that nature, and so little expected, did intreat *Maucaden* to divert that evil from him, confessing that he had rather serve as a Slave in a Gally, than to be a Favorite in the Palace, seeing that there was no getting in by any other means than under those cruel conditions which he had mentioned to him.

Maucaden

Maucaden ſurprz'd to hear him talk ſo, did tax him of Barbarouſneſs, and told him, that though he himſelf was not ſenſible of that good which was offer'd him, he would make him happy even againſt his Will. But *Talbor* affrighted at his pretended good Fortune, did ſo earneſtly intreat him to alter that reſolution, that *Maucaden* left him after he had told him, that ſeeing he had not ſufficiency of Ambition or of Courage to bear ſo great a Fortune, he would tell his Siſter that he had been deceived in that good opinion that he had had of him.

While that *Talbor* was fearing thoſe fatal effects of his pretended good Fortune, the Prince *Ali Hamet* impatient in his Love, had taken the Field at the head of a great Body of Horſe, much leſs to gain a Conqueſt, than to take ſome Priſoners, that might tell him ſome news

news of *Alzira*: His march did alarm *Bembuca*, who ſent divers Troops to oppoſe him. *Mancaden*, who had the command of them, did ask permiſſion to lead *Talbor* along with him, and by that means he ſaved him from that reſolution which had been taken of making him an *Eunuque*. He marched long Journeys, and in a ſhort time found himſelf near unto the Enemy. *Ali Hamet*, who was wholy taken up with his Love, and the deſign of taking ſome few Priſoners, permitted his Troops to refreſh themſelves in a very commodious Camp, and did march one whole Night at the head of ſome few Men, to obſerve the Enemy, or peradventure, to more commodiouſly make ſome Priſoners. But the Day Light having ſurpriſed him, he perceived that he had advanced too far, and found himſelf compaſſed about with divers Squadrons of Enemies, without

any possibility of retreat. That great number with which he was surrounded, did not hinder him from defending himself with an unimaginable Valour; yet he was taken, or rather over-powered than vanquished. His Troops having been informed of his misfortune, they suddenly Disbanded themselves, and *Maucaden* returned to *Fes*, to conduct thither in Person his Illustrious Prisoner. *Talbot* did avoid appearing before him, for fear of losing himself, if it were perceived that he had formerly had some Commerce with *Ali Hamet*. *Bembuca*, who had always feared least that *Ali Hamet* should one Day drive him from the Throne, did learn with all the joy imaginable, that he was made Prisoner. All his Grandees did Compliment him on that good success, *Alzira* only appeared indifferent in the midst of such an universal joy; she was not sensible of any thing, since

the

the adventure of the Lyon, the Idea of her Deliverer had continually remain'd in her mind; and though she had been perswaded that it was *Mahomet* who had rendred her that Signal piece of Service, she still pleas'd her self, in thinking that she would have Lov'd most passionatly some Prince that had been like her Deliverer. These chimerical fancies did continually possess her mind, and *Balabai* had all the pains imaginable to draw her out of them. Though *Bembuca* had a mortal hatred against *Ali Hamet*, he seemingly treated him well, to let the People know, that he honour'd the Blood of the *Cherifs*, even in the person of his Enemy. He Lodged him in his own Palace, and order'd that all the honours which were used towards the Prince his Son, should be rendred unto him also, and likewise desired that *Ali Hamet* should go make his Reverence to

the Queen and Princeſs. Mean time, *Alzira* was ſo oppreſſed with her continual reſtleſneſs of mind, that ſhe intreated her Father to diſpence her from being at the Queens Appartment, when *Ali Hamet* ſhould go to Viſit her. But the whole Court ringing of his good meen with admiration, *Balabai* had the Curioſity to go to ſee him. *Ali Hamet*, who had hoped to ſee *Alzira* in the Queens preſence, and who thought himſelf already but too well recompenced for the loſs of his Liberty, did in vain ſeek her with his Eyes, and ſtay'd them on no Perſon, not finding out his moſt Charming Princeſs. He was ready to ask where ſhe was, but he durſt not give himſelf that ſatisfaction, for fear of being wanting in reſpect towards the Queen, or it may be leaſt that the particular intereſt that he ſhould expreſs for the Princeſs might be perceived.

Thoſe

Thoſe great reſpects which were rendred to *Balabai*, did ſet him in a doubt whether ſhe were not the Princeſs of *Feſs*; though he was well aſſur'd that it was not the ſame Perſon that had made him in Love. He retired himſelf from the Queens Appartment, in a much more reſtleſs mind than he had come thither. Sometimes he imagin'd that there was no other Princeſs of *Feſs* than *Balibai*; and a moment after he wou'd repreſent to himſelf all thoſe Features of that lovely Perſon whom he had deliver'd from the fury of the Lyon, and did very well remember that all the People had treated her as a Princeſs. Finally, after divers reflections, he believed that he had confounded that amiable Perſon with the Princeſs, and that doubtleſs it was ſome Woman of hers, whoſe extream Beauty had made him miſtake her for the Princeſs. But who ever it were, he did feel ſo

ſtrong a paſſion for that perſon, that without troubling himſelf whether ſhe were a Princeſs or a Slave, he did Love her with an equal ardor, and did continually think of the means to ſee her again

Mean time *Balabai*, who had looked on *Ali Hamet* with great attention, had been ſo charmed with his good meen, that even from that very firſt ſight it was impoſſible for her to reſiſt a certain tendency, that did engage her to love him almoſt againſt her Will. When ſhe came to *Alzira*, ſhe entertaind her with nothing but what did concern *Ali Hamet*; and as ſhe never did conceal any thing from the Princeſs, ſhe confeſs'd to her with bluſhes, that ſhe lov'd that Prince; and added, that ſhe ſtrongly fancied, that the good meen of her Deliverer, which ſhe ſo much praiſed, did come very near to that of *Ali Hamet*. *Alzira*, without

without making any reflection, did at the first chide her, for loving her Fathers Enemy. But afterwards believing that *Balabai's* Love would give her an occasion of retaliating all those Jests and Droleries which her favorite had made on the account of her melancholy, she was not sorry that she should love *Ali Hamet*.

Love was the Subject of all their Conversations. *Alzira* had a most sensible pleasure in frequently speaking of him who had sav'd her life, and *Balabai*, whom love had rendred more diligent than ordinarily, did no longer reproach the Princess of that passion which she had for a *Chimera*; and *Alzira* did in her turn make her confess, that there was much more weakness in loving a Man by meer fancy, than in loving one unto whom great obligations are due. *Balabai*, not opposing her self directly unto the Princess's sentiments, did

however insinuate unto her, that a passion in which a heart does ingage it self of its proper motion, is much stronger and more certain, than that in which an acknowledgment had some share, seeing that the one was an effect of inclination, while that the other lay at the mercy of divers Accidents. The Princess did not wholly agree on that, and did maintain, that there never could be any love produc'd by bare acknowledgments; that inclinations, had always a great share in Love, but that persons were willing to deceive themselves, that the heart might have the least shame in owning its own weakness, under pretence that some acknowledgment did force him to Love.

Mean time, *Talbot* had found out a means privately to see *Ali Hamet*, and to let him know how much he was concern'd that he had not been capable of rendring him

him ſome Service towards the Princeſs, who did never ſee any but Women or *Eunuques*. The Prince was not ſurpriſed at it, ſeeing that he himſelf, though lying in the Palace ſome days ſince, had never had any opportunity of ſeeing that Charming perſon, who had given him ſo much Love, for he no longer did believe that it was the Princeſs. He did every day walk in a certain Gallery of the Palace, much leſs to obſerve the Curious pieces of panting with which it was adorn'd, than to think without reſtraint, on his misfortunes. *Balabai* having taken notice of it, paſſed through that Gallery, making as if it were her way to go into the Queens Appartment. She was very deſirous to ſpeak to *Ali Hamet*, and to ask him his Judgment on thoſe Pictures: But by ill fortune, he underſtood her not, and he ſpoke to her again in a Language that ſhe was ignorant

of. Thoſe of *Feſs* ſpeak a Language which is particular to themſelves, but thoſe of *Tarudant* and of *Suſs* ſpeak a corrupt *Arabick*. The Courtiers ſpeak *Portugais*, and for the moſt part the *African* Princes take a particular care to have their Children learn that Language. *Balabai*, who had propoſed to her ſelf this occaſion, of being informed whether one day *Ali Hamet* ſhould become ſenſible to her Love, was in an extream anguiſh to find they underſtood not one another. Yet as all Lovers are apt to flatter themſelves, ſhe did expound to her advantage all the Princes Civilities, who remain'd in a comfortleſs condition for having loſt ſo fair an opportunity of of clearing his doubt, if that that Perſon who would have ſpoken to him, were the Princeſs, and of learning whether that Perſon whom he had deliver'd from the Lyons fury were ſtill in the Palace. *Balabai*

bai remembring that the Princeſs had learned *Portugais* from a Slave of that Nation, gave her an account of her late adventure, and did intreat her to ſerve her as an Interpreter, on this account. *Alzira* did at firſt excuſe her ſelf from it, expreſſing an averſion of converſing with her Fathers Enemy. But her Favorite did ſo well repreſent to her how that ſhe could not confide the ſecret of her Love unto any other perſon than to her ſelf, that the Princeſs being moved with her reaſons, and ſoftned with her tears, did conſent to give her that mark of complaiſancy. But it was on condition that ſhe ſhould not pull up her Vail, and of paſſing for one of *Balabai's* Servants. *Ali Hamet* being return'd into the Gallery to contemplate, as he uſed to do, *Balabai* did preſently repair thither alſo, accompanied by *Alzira*, who having caſt her Eyes upon the Prince

through

through her Vail, which was of a very thin Stuff, did presently know him for her Deliverer, with whom her imagination was continually prepossessed. Such an unexpected rencounter, did give her so much joy, such an emotion of Spirits, and so many other different motions on the sudden, that she swooned away. *Balabai* affrighted with seeing her in that condition, did carry her to her Chamber, with the assistance of another Woman. So soon as the Princess was recovered out of her Swoon, she cast her Eyes on all sides, perhaps thinking still to see that dear Object which had caused so sudden a change in her: But she perceiving no body but *Balabai*, who was weeping on her Beds side, *Alzira*, recalling to mind that passion which her favorite had for *Ali Hamet*, and thinking withal, that the Prince was the same Person who had saved her life, or at least

was

was so much like him, as to awaken in her Heart all the sentiments of Love and acknowledgments she had had for that Generous unknown Person, did no longer look on *Balabai* but as her Rival, from whom it was requisite that she should conceal her secret for the future; and to that purpose she did perswade her, that her Swooning was an effect of the aversion which she had for that Prince, and of the disturbance which she had been in at the sight of her Fathers Enemy. *Balabai*, who trusted to her Words, durst no longer propose unto her the Office of Interpreter. But *Alzira*, who had an extream impatiency of seeing the Prince again, did feign to be concerned at her Favorit's misfortune, and did promise to overcome for her sake all the Antipathy which she had against *Ali Hamet*, and even to speak kindly to him. *Balabai* pierc'd throughly with the

Princesses

Princeſſes bounty, did make uſe of that good diſpoſition ſhe was in, and having learn'd that the Prince had continued in the Gallery, ſhe went thither again with *Alzira*, who did no longer mind the hiding of her Face, as ſhe had done the firſt time. *Ali Hamet* troubled at the loſs of ſo many opportunities of learning ſome news of that Perſon which had given him ſo much Love, did begin to fear of never more ſeeing that charming Object, when that he perceived *Balabai* drawing near unto him, accompanied with *Alzira*, who comming up, did ſpeak *Portugues* to him. *Ali Hamet* was ſo pleaſingly ſurpriz'd at the ſecond ſight of this Beautiful Perſon, that he remain'd immovable, all his Senſes being ſo imploy'd on her, that her forgot to give her an anſwer. *Balabai* ſeeing him thus ſurpriz'd, did fear that he underſtood not the *Portugues* Language.

But

But *Alzira* having inquired of him if he had never been at *Fes* before that *Mancaden* had made him Prisoner; It was no difficult thing for *Mancaden* to make me a Prisoner, replied the Prince, seeing that another Person had already deprived me of my Liberty, and that I sought after nothing more than the returning into my Chaines. That Answer caused some disorder in *Alzira*, fearing least he should mean that to *Balabai*: Mean time, the more she examined him, the more did she confirm her self in her passion, finding in him all the same features of that Person who had made her in Love: But she could not comprehend by what adventure that Prince had happened to be at *Fes* so opportunely to save her life. She was going to inquire that of him, had not *Balabai* interrupted their conversation, to learn from *Alzira* what 'twas he

said.

ſaid. She gave her to underſtand, that the Prince had a moſt tender Heart, and that he was diſcourſing concerning the loſs of his Liberty, when ſhe interrupted them, *Balabai* raviſhed with that anſwer, did conjure her to continue the converſation. Then did the Princeſs intreat *Ali Hamet* to inform her how he had come to loſe his Liberty, and who was that Perſon that had depriv'd him of it. The Prince, after a ſigh, told her, that the deſire of acquiring ſome reputation, by rendring himſelf Maſter of the City of *Feſs*, ingag'd him to examine the Place in a diſguiſe; but that the fates had deſigned it otherwiſe. His Modeſty had hindred him from ſaying more, had not the Princeſs preſſed him to continue. What can I ſay, that you know not better than I do my ſelf? continued *Ali Hamet*. A roaring Lyon, that I had the good Fortune to overcome,

come, gave me the opportunity of ſaving you, and of loſing my ſelf: For from that very moment that I did ſee you, I lov'd you with the moſt real and the ſtrongeſt paſſion that ever was. Though this diſcourſe was very conformable unto *Alzira*'s ſentiments, ſhe could not forbear bluſhing, and being diſcompos'd at it. *Halabai*, who perceived the diſorder ſhe was in, had the curoſity to learn the cauſe. The Princeſs told her, that *Ali Hamet* had cauſed ſome diſturbance in her at the recital which he made her of a Combate which he had had on her Fathers Territories. With your favour, inform me, continued the Prince, who it is that I love in you; the knowledge of your condition can neither increaſe nor diminiſh my Love, and I even feel an inward joy, at the thoughts that you are not *Bembuca's* Daughter. Then you would not have lov'd the

Princeſs

Princeſs of *Feſs*? replied *Alzira* haſtily. Alas! replied the Prince, Love gave me not time to deliberate, when I beheld you; and I had ſo little power over my paſſion, that I believe I had lov'd you, though you had been a Chriſtian Slave. The Princeſs raviſh'd that ſhe was belov'd for her meer Beauty's ſake, and without any aſſiſtance from her birth in this conqueſt, was preparing to anſwer him ſomething very obliging, when an *Eunuque* came, and told her that the Queen had asked for her. The Prince remain'd very well ſatisfied with this converſation, perceiving well by his Miſtriſſes diſcourſes, that his paſſion was not diſpleaſing to her. Mean time *Gayland* had ſent to *Feſs* a conſiderable Perſon to treat with *Bembuca*, in order to *Ali Hamet's* Liberty. *Bembuca*, who had other deſignes, did continually propoſe great difficuties to the concluſion

of

of that Treaty; yet he expreſſed a very great eſteem for *Ali Hamet*. And whether it was to delude the Vulgar, by his ſeeming pretences, or that he deſign'd to amuſe the Prince, that he might have no diſtruſt of his Artifices, he had him invited to all the diverſiſements of the Court; and did endeavour by all ſorts of means to render his detainment leſs wearisome. *Ali Hamet* had paſſed two Days without ſeeing of his Miſtriſs, and was fruitleſly buſying of himſelf in finding out an opportunity to ſpeak with her, when that he was intreated by the Prince of *Feſs*, to ſee the Combate of a furious Lyon againſt a moſt Savage Bear. Thoſe kind of Spectacles being of very great requeſt amongſt the *Africans*, the Kings of *Feſs* do often uſe ſuch kindes of divertiſments. *Ali Hamet* hoping that there he might behold that Charming Perſon who had made him in Love, did greatly

ly rejoyce at his going thither. So soon as he was entred the place which was designed him, he looked on all sides, and particularly in that place where the Queens Maids of Honour were seated, in hopes to find *Alzira* amongst them, and did begin to be in some disorder at his not seeing of her, when at last he espied her sitting next to the Queen, which very near that place in which he himself was. *Alzira*, placed thus amongst the Royal Family, did extreamly surprise the Prince; and though the Splendor of her Beauty did tarnish the Lustre of her Jewels, yet the magnificent Apparel in which she was dressed, did afford him new Charms. He doubted then no longer, but that she was the Princess of *Fess*; but he already Lov'd her with so much passion, that this new knowledge caused no considerable alteration in his mind. The Beasts did fight with an extraordinary

traordinary fierceneſs. And while that the Spectators were giving their approbations on this Combate, *Ali Hamet* had continually his Eyes fixed on the Princeſs, who did not take off hers from beholding him, but to look down in modeſty, and ſo ſoon as ſhe raiſed them up again, they would meet with the Princes, which did ſpeak in their Language a thouſand tender and paſſionate things to her; all which ſhe eaſily Interpreted, through the great Sympathy which was already between them. The Combate, which had laſted a conſiderable time, was at an end through the death of thoſe fierce Animals. The two Lovers were obliged to ſeparate themſelves ſooner than they would have wiſhed. Love, who was the only Subject of all their thoughts, did continually ſet them on contriving ſome means of ſeeing and entertaining one another again, with

their

their Amorous passions, *Ali Hamet*, did constantly walk in such places of the Palace as he judg'd that the Princess might pass by, where he would build a thousand different projects; sometimes he was for going into the Princesses Apparment; a moment after, he would propose to himself the gaining of some *Eunuque* to his Service with some Liberalities, who might deliver his Letters to *Alzira*. But so soon as he was going about the executing of either of his projects, he would fall again into his first irresolutions, and finally would resolve to Love her for ever, without undertaking any thing that should displease her. *Alzira*, mean time, who did continually entertain her self with *Balabai* on the merit and good meen of *Ali Hamet*, observ'd in their conversations that her Rivals passion did increase as oft as she beheld her Lover, which made her once resolve to

bring

bring as many obſtacles as ſhe could to their enterview. But by reaſon that *Balabai* was never abſent from her, and that ſhe her ſelf had an extream impatiency to ſee *Ali Hamet*, ſhe changed her mind, and choſe rather to ſee her Lover in the preſence of her Rival, than to deprive her ſelf any longer of that pleaſure. And taking advantage of *Balabai*'s Idle paſſion, ſhe adviſed her not to neglect thoſe favourable diſpoſitions in which the Prince was for her ſake; giving her to underſtand, the better to deceive her, that ſhe ſhould no longer be ſorry to ſee her eſpouſe the Prince, ſeeing that it might contribute towards the peace betwixt *Bembuca* and *Gayland*. *Balabai* being perſwaded through the Princeſs's Bounty, did confide her ſecrets unto one of thoſe *Eunuques* that ſerved her, and having engag'd him by preſents and promiſes faithfully to

ſerve

ſerve her, ſhe did propoſe to the Princeſs to write to *Ali Hamet*, to give him notice that he ſhould repair at night unto the *Eunuques* Chamber, where they might entertain him at leiſure. *Alzira* overjoy'd that her Rival had thought on this expedient, did write to him a ſhort Note in *Portugues*, to give him notice that he ſhould not in the leaſt ſcruple to follow that *Eunuque*, who would conduct him to a place where he ſhould find ſome Perſons that were very deſirous to learn whether his converſation was as agreeable as his meen was advantageous. After that every body was retired, the *Eunuque* did carefully carry that little Note to the Prince, who received it with all the joy imaginable, and deferr'd no longer to follow the *Eunuque*, than what ſerved to read the Note. You may eaſily imagin with what exceſs of joy *Ali Hamet* was tranſported

at

at his entring into the *Eunuques* Chamber, where the Princeſs and *Balabai* did expect him. They were ſo aſhamed at ſuch an Action, that they ſcarce would lift up their Eyes to look on him. *Alzira* would have hid her baſhfulneſs under pretence that this Action was under her Rivals name, and ſhe thought that at the moſt ſhe could but tax her ſelf for having too much of complaiſance for her Friend. And *Balabai*, being authoriz'd by the Princeſs's preſence, did caſt on her again all thoſe ſecret reproaches which her Modeſty and her Virtue did make her to conceit. In fine, both the one and the other did think their weakneſs very pardonable, when they reflected on the good meen of the Prince. *Alzira* told him in *Portugues*, that the aſſiduous earneſtneſs with which he had look'd on her during the Combate of the Lyon and the Bear did make her

fancy that he had something to say to her. —— You are not deceived in that, most charming Prince, said *Ali Hamet*, interrupting her, I had so much joy to be satisfied as to your real Condition, finding that you were born of the Noble Blood of the *Cherifs*, that I thought my self oblig'd to you for that innocent fraud which you had used in the concealing of your Rank from me. But you had assur'd me, replied *Alzira*, that that knowledge should have no considerable advantage over your mind, and that it would produce no alteration in your Love. I do confess to you, reply'd the Prince, that it had been difficult for me to have added any thing unto that strong passion which I had already for you. Yet I was so surpriz'd to see that a Person of so perfect a Beauty, and of so high a Birth, did not disapprove of my Love, that it has enter'd me into new engagements;

and

and I was resolv'd to expose my self unto all sorts of perils to see you again, when the *Eunuque* brought me the Bill. *Alzira*, who was in some kind of Confusion at those last Words, would have excus'd her self from having writ that Note; and having less designs of pleasuring her Rival, than of preserving her Modesty, she told him, without any further reflexion, that it was to *Balabai*, and not to her self, that he was indebted for that kindness. The Prince turning him immediately towards *Balabai*, and taking her by the hand, he kissed it with some little force, and return'd her thanks for the good Office that she had rendred him. *Balabai* deceived thus by this shew of Love that was so like to a reality, and believing that the Princess did really serve her with good success, did after that hearken with a great deal of satisfaction to all the tender discourses of the two

Lovers, and did facilitate to them at divers times, the means of frequently seeing and entertaining one another. *Ali Hamet's* long detainment did serve but to make his Merits the better known at the Court of *Fes*, and to cast new fears and jealousies in *Bembica's* mind, who did not doubt but that a Prince that had such singular qualities would one Day set up the interest which he pretended to the Crown of *Fes*. Those reasons, with that hatred he had for *Gayland*, did resolve him on *Ali Hamet's* ruine. He sought divers ways to accomplish it, without the least distrust by any body, fearing least he should draw on himself the hatred of his People, in spilling the Blood of *Mahomet*. After divers considerations on this Business, it came in his mind, that *Talbot* had done wounderful things with Gun-powder, which made him of opinion that he might contrive

trive such a Mine as should make no great noise in the blowing up under the Princes Chamber, and yet crush him to Death under the ruines of that building, without any distrust that it had been design'd, seeing that the use of Gun-powder was yet scarce known at *Fess*. He proposed his design to *Talbor*, who not knowing that it was intended against the Prince, did promise the King to make a Mine that should act in the same manner that he desir'd, and with little or no noise. He went about it very secretly, and when it was ready to spring, he gave the King notice, who was overjoy'd at it. The Eve to that Execution Day, *Bembuca* being only with the Prince of *Fess*, and the Princess *Alzira* his Children, he advertised them of his design, that they might not be surpriz'd with the noise that they should hear; and to set forth that important piece of Service,

which he design'd to render them by *Ali Hamets* death, he spoke to them in these terms.

Our Blessed Prophet, the most intimate Friend to our Great *Alla*, has always been favourable to me: For after that he had destroyed the *Almanzors*, and the *Benemerignis*, he was pleas'd to place me on the Throne, preferably unto the Father of *Ali Hamet*, and of divers others of our Kinred, which the Right of Blood did call unto it before me. He has given me the Victory over mine Enemies, and he has come in his own Person to defend my dear Daughter from the fury of the Lyon. But he did never give me a more sensible token of his protection, than in causing *Ali Hamet* to fall into my Hands, through the assistance of my Friend *Gayland*, who is the onely Person that might one Day disturb my quiet, and hinder you my Children from succeeding me in

the

the Throne. All these reasons, my dear Children, have made me resolve the destruction of that Enemy. *Tabor* the Stranger, has by my order contriv'd a Mine under his Apartment, this Night you will hear it fall, be not concern'd at it, and before the People feign to lament the fate of that unhappy Prince.

Meira, struck through the Heart at the news of this cruel resolution, was in the greatest trouble imaginable to constrain her self before her Father: Yet she did represent to him, that the Great *Mahomet* might be offended at such an Action, and that it were much better to leave to that Prophet the care of his own Revenge, than to undertake it himself. But *Rembuca* not regarding her reasons, made answer, that *Mahomet* had sufficiently given him to understand his Will in that, by *Ali Hamets* Imprisonment. The Princess

daring not to reply any further, thought of nothing more but of concealing that disorder she was in. The King, after he had enjoyn'd them silence, did retire, and *Alzira* return'd into her Appartment overcome with grief and sorrow. But yet shee took *Ali Hamet's* interests in hand, without abandoning of her self unto a fruitless despair, and did resolve to hazard all, for the safety of her Lover; wherefore under some other pretences, she caused an *Eunuques* dress to be brought to her, and having subtilly rid her self of those Persons that were about her, she changed her habit, and went into *Ali Hamet's* Appartment. The Prince, who presently knew her face, was very much surpriz'd at this disguise: The Princess, who did blush to see her self in that condition, did intreat him to suspend all the Judgments that an Action seemingly so rash might oblige him

him to make of her. I confeſs, *continued ſhe*, that I have not had leiſure, to make reflexions, a too preſſing intereſt has made me act, and I have not wav'd to expoſe my ſelfe to Ruine, when your Life was concern'd. The Prince greatly mov'd at his Miſtriſſes bounties, caſt himſelf at her feet, and would have ſpoken tender and paſſionate things to her, as he us'd to do. But, Loſe no time, reply'd *Alzira*, interrupting him, my Father has reſolv'd your ruine, and by Morning this great Appartment will be but Rubbiſh, under which you are to periſh; you muſt inſtantly retire, and return into your Territories, where I flatter my ſelf, that for Love of me, you will endeavour a Peace, and that you will not fail to ſend me of your news ſo ſooon as arriv'd. She with that gave him a Pidgeon, which ſhe had carefully brought up, and aſſur'd him that if he ſed

it with a certain Seed which ſhe named, it would be eaſie for them frequently to Write to one another; becauſe that that kind of Pidgeon did never fail of returning into thoſe places where they have already been fed; which thing is ſo well known, that they are made uſe of as ſwift Poſts in divers places of *Africa*. *Ali Hamet*, ſcarce minding the danger that he was threatned with, had much to do to reſolve to depart, and to diſtance himſelf from his Princeſs. But *Alzira* did ſo earneſtly preſs him to think on his ſafety for her ſake, ſeeing that he neglected it on his own account, that at laſt he went out, followed by the diſguiſed *Alzira*, who had already taken all the neceſſary meaſures to prevent all obſtacles. She did accompany him unto the laſt Gate of the Palace, and having not the power to take leave of him, ſhe ſuddenly ſtole from his ſight, taking the

way

way to her Appartment, very much afflicted at the Princes departure, though well satisfied that she had saved her Lovers life. She was scarce got into her Chamber, when that the Mine was sprung, with that success that *Talbot* had promised. All the Palace was alarm'd at it, the Princesses Women came about her in a great disorder, and at every moment there came into her Chamber some *Eunuque* which brought her some new circumstance of that extraordinary event. The confusion was so great, that it was long before the truth of what had passed was known. At last the Princess was assur'd that *Ali Hamet* was the only considerable Person that had perished under the Ruines of that Fabrick. There were some also that positively said they had seen his Body shatter'd in a thousand pieces. Though *Alzira* had been prepared against all those discour-

ses,

ſes, ſhe was much concerned, fearing leſt that peradventure the Prince might have returned into his appartment. But thoſe diſturbances of mind were over, when the King ſent her word of the misfortune that had happened, and of the fruitleſs pains that had been already taken to unbury the Body of *Ali-Hamet*, which had not yet been found. *Balabai* came in that inſtant to the Princeſs, and in her preſence did yield unto all the effects that ſo great a ſorrow could inſpire into a moſt afflicted Perſon. *Alziza* did endeavour to comfort her, and leſt that thoſe diſorders that ſhe was in ſhould be conſtruto her diſadvantage, ſhe diſcreetly gave out, that a Maid Servant whom *Balabai* had lov'd very well had periſhed under the Ruines of that Appartment, in which ſhe lay. Mean time *Bembuca*, who applauded himſelf for the happy ſucceſs of his deſign, and who made uſe

of

of all the cautiousness imaginable to prevent that he should ever be suspected of having any Hand in *Ali Hamets* misfortune, who he thought certainly dead, gave out orders to have *Talbot* convy'd to the next Sea-Port, that he might be sent back to *Tangire*, which belongs to the *English*. Thus every one in *Fess* did believe that this great accident had happened through the fault of those Architects that had had the ordering of that building. After divers fruitless cares to distinguish the Body of *Ali Hamet* from others, the King perceiving that all those that were found involved in the Ruines were so shatter'd that it was impossible scarce to know one, he, to impose the more on the People, order'd that a Body, which he pretended to be that of *Ali Hamet*, should be Imbalmed; after which he had all things got in a readiness for the celebration of his

Funeral

Funeral Rites after the ſame manner as they us'd to be rendred unto the Princes of the Blood of the *Cherifs*.

Alzira ſympathiſing with *Balabai* in her afflictions, did not omit any thing that might give her comfort. She was even on the point of letting her know that the Prince was not dead; but well foreſeeing that the Joy of a Rival would cauſe her more trouble than would the ſorrow of a Friend, the intereſt of her affections did always diſwade her from giving ſo much ſatisfaction to that afflicted Lover. Alas! would *Balabai* ſay, you love but a meer Chimera, whoſe ſingle remembrance affords you both Joy and Delight; judge by that of the ſorrow which I do feel in the loſs of a Prince ſo accompliſhed as was the Young *Cherif*, who had infus'd a paſſion in me from the very firſt time that I had ſeen him, and who already

had ſuch advantageous thoughts of me, as you are ſenſible of. The Princeſs not anſwering poſitively unto her diſcourſes, was endeavouring to comfort her, when that the King ſent her Word, that at laſt the Body of the unfortunate *Ali Hamet* had been taken up, and that it was requiſite that ſhe ſhould prepare her ſelf to aſſiſt the the next Day at thoſe magnificent Funerals which he had ordered ſhould be performed for him. The name of *Ali Hamet* did renew all *Balabai's* ſorrows, and *Alzira* was no longer in a condition to aſſiſt her; ſhe was ſo troubled her ſelf with hearing this cruel news, that ſhe remain'd without ſenſe or motion, not being able to believe that it was true, neither having the power of ſatisfying her ſelf on a thing which ſhe ſo feared; and apprehending alſo leſt that her Favourite ſhould take notice of the concern which ſhe took in the

Princes

Prince's intereſt. *Balabai* ſhed tears, while that *Alzira* was making a thouſand reflections: Now ſhe fea-red that the Prince might have returned into his Chamber, a mo-ment after ſhe would pleaſe her ſelf with the thoughts of his departure, remembring that ſhe had accompa-nied him unto the fartheſt Gate of the Palace, neither could ſhe ſee any likely hood, that that Bo-dy which was talked of could be his. Yet all her reaſon could not ſettle her allarm'd Love, ſhe was oblig'd to give out, that ſhe was Sick, taking to her Bed, under that pretence to conceal from every Body the diſorders that ſhe was in. The King, who did moſt tenderly Love his Daughter, was extream-ly afflicted at her Sickneſs, and did not appear at *Ali Hamet's* Fu-nerals as he had deſign'd: He would go every moment to the Princeſs, and ſo ſoon as he was returned from thence, he would

end

ſend thither the Prince his Son. The Prince having one Day obſerv'd, that *Balabai* was weeping by the Princeſs, he was mov'd with a tender compaſſion at the tears of ſo Beautiful a Perſon, and endeavouring to conſolate her, compaſſion draw tears from him alſo, which cauſed an effect ſomewhat extraordinary. For *Balabai* being ſurpriſed with ſeeing the Prince to weep, was willing to make *Alzira* obſerve her Brothers good Nature; but the Prince interrupted her, and aſſur'd her, that his Sifter had no ſhare in thoſe tears, which compaſſion had forc'd from him at the ſight of the ſorrow of ſo Beautiful a Perſon as ſhe her ſelf was. That anſwer cauſed *Balabai* to bluſh, not expecting it; and how great ſoever her ſorrow was, ſhe was ſomewhat moved with that flattery, which made her return the Prince thanks for his Bounty. *Alzira*, who maugre all her diſtur-

bance

bance of Mind, did still flatter her self with the hopes that her Love was not dead, was not displeas'd that the Prince her Brother had spoken so obligingly to her Favorite, and did resolve to advantage her self by that good disposition, in making *Balbaz* wholly to forget *Ali Hamet*. So that at all times that her sorrows did give her some intervals, she would not lose any occasion to mention the Beauty of *Balbaz* to her Brother, and of entertaining her with the great advantages that a Person who should have the good Fortune to please the Prince, might expect. The Prince would hearken to her with pleasure, and *Balbaz* would confess, that if after the loss which she had so lately had, she could be capable of being mov'd with any thing, the Prince should not be indifferent to her. *Alzira*, who would not appear till she had received news from

from her Love, did pass many Days without stirring forth of her Chamber; which gave means to the Prince, who did hourly visit her, frequently to entertain *Balabai*. He found her much to his mind, and those enterviews did greatly increase that esteem which he already had for her. There being no great distance between that kind Sentiment, and Love, the Prince stay'd not long before he passionately lov'd her. *Balabai*, who had at the first hearkened unto the Prince but through a complaysancy to *Alzira*, had much to do to suffer him to speak of Love; she had resolv'd never to love any thing more after the unhappy success of her first Amours; the thoughts of her dead Lover, did contribute to confirm her in that resolution, being prepossessed, that only *Ali Hamet* was worthy of being beloved.

While

While that the Prince of *Fes* was endeavouring to make her alter her mind, the Court of *Sus* was in the extreameſt affliction imaginable. The Prince *Gayland* had received news from all parts, of the death of his Kinſman *Ali Hamet*; the certain knowledge which he had of *Bembuca*'s wicked Nature, did make him think that *Ali Hamet's* death had been deſign'd, which obliged him to a War, and to exhort all his Subjects to do their utmoſt, to revenge ſuch a perfidious Action. The Young *Cherif* being highly regretted, every one did put himſelf in a poſture of revenging his death, and *Gayland* had ſoon found himſelf at the head of a numerous Army, had not *Ali Hamet* return'd, which did moſt pleaſingly ſurpriſe the Court. His Uncle gave him a thouſand marks of his affection and tenderneſs. There was no other talk but of divertiſements,

and

and every one did ſet forwards in expreſſing the joy which they received by the Princes Arrival. *Ali Hamet* bearing in mind how that his Miſtriſs had recommended to him, the diſpoſing of things towards a Peace, did highly praiſe to his Uncle all the good Offices which he had received from *Bembuca*, and did perſwade him, the better to ſerve his Princeſs, that *Bembuca* not being able to reſiſt the inſtances of his Council, who did continually inſpire him to rid his Hand of ſo dangerous an Enemy, he had the Generoſity to give him notice of it, and deceiving all the Miniſters of State, in ſecretly conveying him out of the Palace unknown to all. *Gayland*, who could not know *Bembuca* by all thoſe Actions of Generoſity, was in a ſtrange ſurpriſal at the Princes recital, and not being able to comprehend how that the King of *Feſs* ſhould be ſo ſtrangely changed,

ged, he judg'd that nothing but *Ali Hamet's* merit could work so great a Miracle.

The Prince having thus disposed his Uncles mind to Peace, thought of nothing more but of giving his Princess some news of himself. He had with great care preserved that Pidgeon which she had given him, and having observ'd all that she had prescribed him as to the feeding of it, to oblige his return, he let him go; after he had fastned to his Feet this following Letter.

ALLA, *and his Great Prophet, have conducted me to* Suli, *where I have found my Uncle preparing himself to revenge my death, the noise of which had already reached so far. My return has caused an universal joy, I am the only Person that cannot rejoyce, when I think that I am at an hundred Leagues distance from that which I*

love.

love: why would you not let me die when you could not save me without sending me from you? I am so well taught to despise death, that it cannot startle me at any time: But to live without you, that only thought is more horrid to me, than all the most Cruel deaths. Judge of the Power which you have over me, seeing that notwithstanding all the reasons which I have to hate Bembuca, I have told my Uncle, that I owe him a thousand Obligations, that he had frequently opposed himself against his Ministers of State who did advise him to destroy me, and that, finally, not being able to defend himself any longer from giving them his consent, he caused me to be conveyed secretly out of the Palace, and after that, had deceived his whole Court in publishing that I was dead. I hope that a Peace will be in a short time concluded. Mean-time send me some news from you, and be perswaded

that

that it is the only joy that I can receive in the condition that I find my self at present

The Pidgeon being arrived into the Princesses Closet, she read her Lovers Letter with all the pleasure imaginable; her joy was so visible on her Face, that it had been impossible for her to have conceal'd it. The Prince and *Balabai* having afterwards taken notice of it, she told them that her joy did proceed from that her Sickness had given an occasion to a good intelligence between two Persons which were very dear unto her: For *Balabai*, who was of the humour of most part of Women, had at last accustomed her self unto the Princes passionate discourses. The two Lovers thought themselves oblig'd unto her for her complaisancy, and if at any time she retired her self in private, to read over again that Letter which *Ali*

Hamet

Hamet had sent her, they judg'd that she did it expresly to favour their Amours. Mean time she had an extream care of her Pidgeon, which she sent back a little while after, with the following Answer, having first left him a whole Day without Food.

YOu have restor'd me to life againe, in informing me that yours was in safety. For, notwithstanding all the assurance which I had of your going out of the Palace, I was so troubled to hear so many different circumstances of your death, that my allarm'd heart did begin to fear lest I had been deceived, when that I thought you gone. I have a thousand times revolv'd in my mind all that did pass at that cruel departure, and a thousand times I have doubted if I did not deceive my self. I was so tired with all the ridiculous stories which were made on your death, that I have

been on the very point of undeceiving all the World; having almost less repugnancy against the discovering of my love, than at the hearing that you were no more. I am oblig'd to you for that noble deceit that you have put upon your Uncle. I hope that the King will be mov'd at so generous a proceeding, and that at last he will open his Eyes to do justice to your merits, or rather that he will a second time give his Daughter her Life, in uniting me to you. Alla *grant it; and let his intimate Friend, our Great Prophet, Crown you with prosperity, and preserve you for your* Alzira.

The End of the first Part.

THE PRINCESS OF FESS.

PART II.

GAYLAND, who had obſerv'd that his Kinſman ſince his return was much more Melancholy than uſual, did in vain endeavour to gueſs at the cauſe thereof. *Bembuca's* Generoſity he did very much diſtruſt, and though he was but too cer-

tain of the Princes virtue, to fear any private intelligence between him and the King of *Fes*, all together did cause some disturbances in his Mind. He was one Day walking with his Nephew on a Tarras, with a design cunningly to pierce into the reasons of his sadness, when that *Ali Hamet* did perceive the Pidgeon which was bringing to him *Alzira's* answer. A joy did so surprise him, that without thinking that he was with his Sovereign, he abrubtly left him, and went up into his appartment, to learn some news of his Mistress. This odd kind of proceeding raised new doubts in *Gayland*, who had very well observ'd that that Pidgeons arrival had caused some disorder in his Nephew. And whereas it is a very ordinary thing in that Country to make use of Pidgeons to send Letters by; he no longer doubted but that *Ali Hamet* had received some Letters from *Bembuca*.

luca. All those things that had preceded did confirm him in his doubts, which made him resolve to inform himself at what rate soever. The *African* Princes for the most part, are very curious in Falconry. *Gayland*, who had all kind of Falcons, made choice of a cast of the best Hawks, he order'd that they should not be fed of one whole Day, and the next Day he had them kept by two Falconers on the avenues of *Ali Hamet's* Appartment, with order to let them fly, so soon as they should see a Pidgeon go from thence. The Prince failed not the next Morning to write a very tender Letter to his Princess, which he intrusted to his faithful Messenger. The Falcons having perceived it setting forth, did presently follow that innocent Courier, and being pressed with hunger, they devoured him in an instant. The Men took up the Letter, and carryed it to *Gay-*

land, who found it to be a moſt paſſionate writing: He gueſt by thoſe terms in which it was penn'd, that the Prince was belov'd by *Alzira*, and compatiſing in his Nephews love, he was ſorry for what he had done, and did no longer doubt, but that the Princeſs had obtain'd from her Father, both the Life and the Liberty of her Lover. *Ali Hamet* being extreamly dear unto him, and beſides he being weary with making War, he reſolv'd to contribute towards that Marriage, and to ſurpriſe his Nephew, in informing him of his reſolution. The ſame Day he call'd him in private, and after that he had expreſſed much kindneſs towards him, he told him, that he had a deſign to marry him, and that he would no longer expoſe him unto the perillous hazard of Wars, till he had given him ſome Succeſſors. *Ali Hamet* not doubting but that his Uncle had caſt

caſt his Eyes on ſome of his Subjects in order to his Marriage, was ſo affrighted at that propoſition, that he remain'd ſpeechleſs. *Gayland* did preſs him to ſpeak, and to declare his mind to him without conſtraint. The Prince grown more bold, did aſſure him, that Glory only was his whole ambition, further ſaying, that it would be ſhameful for him to Marry before he had wiped off the ſhame of his Priſon by ſome ſignal action. I had reſolv'd, reply'd *Gayland*, to ſend ſome magnificent preſents unto the King of *Feſs*, to return him thanks for having ſet you at liberty, and I was in a mind at the ſame time to have the Princeſs his Daughter ask'd in Marriage for you, but ſince I ſee that you have ſome averſion againſt it——The Princeſs *Alzira*, Sir! reply'd *Ali Hamet*, ſurpriſingly. Yes, *Bembuca's* Daughter, continued *Gayland*; but becauſe that I will not compel you

to any thing, I will not think any longer on it: Ah! my Lord, reply'd *Ali Hamet*, are not you my Sovereign? and are you to consult my Will in any thing that concerns the good of your People? It is not with you, reply'd *Gayland*, that I will make use of my Sovereign rights; and seeing that it is Glory only which takes up all your ambition, I will permit you to follow that noble design. Saying of this, he retir'd, and gave not time to the Prince to answer him. Yet he omitted not sending an Embassador secretly, loaden with costly presents, with order to present them to *Bembuca*, and to demand *Alzira* of him, for *Ali Hamet*, who mean time was under most cruel perplexities, for having lost so favourable an occasion of engaging his Uncle to concern himself in his Marriage. Sometimes he was for an entire declaration of his Love, a moment after, he would alter

alter hir mind, fearing leſt that *Gayland* ſhould ill reſent his deſigns on the Princeſs of *Feſs*, without his conſent. While that he was in thoſe agitations, *Alzira* was labouring with an extream application to render happy her Brother and *Balabai*, who did moſt paſſionately love one another: ſhe had already ſpoken to the King, in favour of thoſe two Lovers, foreſeeing that one Day ſhe might ſtand in need of a like complaiſance from them; or peradventure that ſhe did take that care to recompence *Balabai* in ſome meaſure for the loſs of *Ali Hamet*. It being cuſtomary for the *African* Princes to Eſpouſe thoſe of their own Subjects that they beſt like, *Bembuca* made no oppoſition unto the two Lovers happineſs, conſidering that this Marriage would preſerve an union in his Family. *Balabai's* Relations, who were very conſiderable at the Court of *Feſs*, did not omit any

thing in which they might expreſs their joy, in publick rejoycings; and the Prince, who was very galant, having wiſhed that there might be ſome Tilting, cauſed it to be publiſhed throughout all the Cities of the Kingdom of *Feſs* and *Morocco*. All things were getting in readineſs againſt thoſe great Feſtivals, when that *Gayland*'s Embaſſador arriv'd there. *Bembuca*, who was the moſt ſubtle of all Men, was extreamly ſurpriz'd at the Magnificent preſents, and much more at the Embaſſadors demands, being fully perſwaded, that *Ali Hamet* was dead; which made him think that *Gayland*, who had no Succeſſor, did peradventure fear ſome revolt in his Dominions, and that he deſign'd to impoſe on his People, under pretence of this marriage, in concealing from them the Death of his Nephew. Thoſe reflexions did oblige him to anſwer this piece of craft by

by another, and to say to the Embassador, that with joy he did yield the Princess unto his Masters Nephew; but whereas it was the belief of the whole Court that *Ali Hamet* was not living, it was necessary that that Prince should appear in Person in the City *Fess*, to undeceive the World, lest that otherwise his Council and People should oppose themselves unto that imaginary Marriage. *Bembuca* having given this Answer, was impatient to inform his Children thereof, and more particularly *Azira*, who had so great an interest in the business. The Princess, being surpriz'd with her Fathers discourse, did perceive that her Lover had acted according to her intentions, and being desirous to anticipate the Kings designs, she told him, with an affected modesty, that she knew her duty, and that she should obey him without repugnancy. It will not be hard for you to do so on

this

this occasion, reply'd the King, since that we all know that *Ali Hamet* is dead. But what if he should come, Sir, reply'd the Princess? would you keep your word? That cannot be, reply'd the King; but should he return, I should assure my self better of his death, in causing him to perish before my Eyes. *Alzira*, affrighted at those last Words, What, Sir, said she, with tears in her Eyes, you would then make me be the pretence under which you would make an unfortunate Prince of the race of the *Cherifs* to perish? May the great *Alla* make me die first. In ending these Words, she cast her self at his Feet, and did protest, that she would not rise again, till he had first promised her that he would offer no wrong unto *Ali Hamet*, if he should chance to return, seeing that it was not impossible but that the Prophet *Mahomet* might have wrought a Miracle to preserve

ſerve a Prince of his own Blood? *Bembuca* admiring his Daughters Credulity, cauſed her to riſe, and granted her requeſt, being prepoſſeſt with this Princes death.

Gayland's Embaſſador, who according to the cuſtom of the Country, had taken along with him divers Pidgeons, wherewith to give notice to his Prince of the good ſucceſs of his Negotiation, gave him an account of *Bembuca's* Anſwer, and advertiſed him alſo of the Princeſs of *Feſs* his Marriage, and of the famous Tilting which was preparing to that purpoſe. So ſoon as *Gayland* did receive that Letter he paſſed into *Ali Hamet's* Appartment, and after that he had told him that he had newly rereived Letters from *Feſs*, he told him that *Bembuca* had Marryed both his Children, that there were great Feſtivals preparing for the Marriage of the Prince with *Balabai*, which was already conſummated,

consummated, and would suddainly be follow'd with that of *Alzira* with another Prince, unto whom her Father has promised her. How! my Lord, interrupted *Ali Hamet*, news are sent you that *Bembuca* is Marrying of the Princess *Alzira*? Her Father has already passed his Word for it, reply'd *Gayland*, (giving his Embassadors Letters;) you will be better informed of this by this Letter which you may read, while I am going to dispatch a business of consequence. The Prince remain'd so astonisted at this cruel news, that he had scarce so much strength left him as would serve to open the Letter which his Uncle had given him. In an instant a thousand violent and passionate designs came in his head, having no other thoughts but of sacrificing that happy Rival unto his Love. That hatred which he already felt against him, did set him in an impatient desire to read the Letter, to learn

learn his name. Never was there a ſurpriſe like unto that of *Ali Hamet*, when reading the Letter, he found the great Obligations which he had to his Uncle; he read over the Letter divers times, not eaſily believing a good Fortune ſo little expected, and though he knew very well that *Bembuca* did deſign to draw him to the Court of *Feſs*, to rid himſelf of him by ſome new artifice, he took ſuch delight in thinking that in ſome ſhort time he ſhould be permitted to behold again his moſt dear Princeſs with the Kings conſent, and that of his Uncle, that he did caſt aſide all thoſe other conſiderations that might give him any diſtruſt of *Bembuca's* deſigns. *Gayland*, who had purpoſely abſented himſelf to let him reliſh at eaſe all that joy which he judged that thoſe happy news would afford him, did return into *Ali Hamet's* Chamber, who preſently went to embrace his

Knees

Knees ſo ſoon as he did ſee him appear, expreſſing in his actions, and by the diſorder of his diſcourſes, how ſenſible he was of this new Obligation. He confeſs'd to him, that he was ſure of *Alzira's* heart, and then humbly intreated him that he would be pleas'd to give him leave to depart with all diligence, that he might be at the Tilting that was preparing at *Feſs*, to have the ſatisfaction of breaking a Lance or two there, in favour of his dear Princeſs. *Gayland* gave his conſent, and the time preſſing, the next Day he ſent back the ſame Pidgeon which was come from *Feſs*, with a Letter which he writ to his Embaſſadour, to order him him to get in readineſs, as ſecretly as he could poſſible, all ſuch things as the Prince ſhould ſtand in need of for the Tilting. Though that the Embaſſadour did think it impoſſible for the Prince to come in time for

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the Tilting, yet he performed exactly his Commiſſion. Mean time *Ali Hamet*, unto whom love did facilitate all things, made ſuch diligence, that he render'd himſelf at *Feſs* before the Tilting was ended. He haſtily did Arm himſelf, and being mounted on an *Arabian* Horſe, he preſented himſelf at the Bariers at the ſame time that the Prince of *Feſs*, who was very dexterious at thoſe kind of exerciſes, had already overcome divers brave Cavaliers, and was going to receive the Priſe from his fair *Balabai's* hands; only *Maucaden*, who might have diſputed it with him, declining the running againſt him. This Prince, ambitious of his Conqueſts, was demanding in a haughty accent whether there was any perſon more that would be born down, or unſeated, when that *Ali Hamet* made ſign with his hand to give him notice that he would brake a

Lance

Lance with him. The Prince of *Fes*, being impatient to punish that presumptuous Person, did presently set himself in a readiness to give him satisfaction. The Equipage of the unknown Person being very magnificent, did oblige all Persons, and especially the Ladies, to cast their Eyes on him. He was so well on Horse, and he did handle his Lance with so good a Grace, that it was presently judg'd that he might give the Prince some work. Yet were not the opinions divided, and after those proofs that the Prince had already given of his valour, and dexterity, no body did doubt but that he would gain the advantage likewise over the stranger. The signal being given, they both set forth with such a swiftness as did shew the impatiency which they both had to joyn one another. At this first encounter they disorder'd each other with almost

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an equal advantage, which did increase that good opinion that every one had already for the Stranger. The Prince of *Fes* being fretted at the resistance that his concurrent had made, did not stay long without setting forth the second time. *Ali Hamet* went off also, and did justle the Prince of *Fes* with so much strength, that having caused him to quit his stirrups, he bore him down. The Princes fall did alarm all the Spectators. The Ladies were already making of imprecations against this Stranger, when that the Prince blaming of their injustice, let them know that he had received no hurt; and he himself did there admire the strength and dexterity of his Conqueror. The brave *Muncaden*, who through respect had wav'd running against the Prince of *Fes*, did intreat the King that he might have leave to revenge him, thinking that after he had overcome

come two Cavaliers of *Morocco*; who had the reputation of being the moſt valiant of all *Africa*, that this Stranger would have much to do to reſiſt him. The great attention with which the Ladies did look on *Ali Hamet*, made them to take notice of his Shield, on which there was pictured a Cavalier that was overcoming of a Lyon with one hand, and was holding forth his other hand to a Lady, with certain *Arabick* Words, which ſignified, *In ſaving her, I my own ſelf have loſt.* No body did comprehend the ſenſe of thoſe Words. *Alzira*, who did find them very conformable unto her Lovers adventure, did obſerve him more carefully than ſhe had done before; and the more that ſhe examined him, the more did ſhe find his port, ſhape, and good meen to be like *Ali Hamet's*. Then this unknown Perſons Valour did the more confirm him

him in her thoughts: But when she did reflect on *Ali Hamet's* hundred Leagues distance from thence, and that the Justing had been but very lately published, she did fear that her love did deceive her, seeing it was impossible that her Lover could be advertis'd of that Festival and got thither in so short a time. While that the Princess was in those agitations of Spirit, the brave Stranger did encrease that admiration which was already had for him, by the advantage which he had over *Maucadem. Balabai*, who was to give the Prise appointed for the Conquerour, did intreat the King to dispence her from that ceremony, expressing some repugnancy against recompencing of that Person who had deprived the Prince and her Brother of the Victory. The King unwilling to constrain her, did appoint the Princess *Alzira* for the presenting of the Prise to the Victor,

Victor, who was already alighted, and was drawn near to the Kings Scaffold; every body had an extream desire to know him, and he was earnestly pressed to pull off his head piece, as is the custom; but the stranger did still put it off, till being call'd by the Princess to receive the Prise which he had so well merited, she required him to discover his Face. *Ali Hamet* had not the power to refuse his Mistris: He presented himself bare headed to her, and did receive from her fair hands a Cimiter studded with precious Stones. It is easie to imagine how much the sight of a Person that was thought dead, did surprise the whole Court. *Balahai* remembring a Face which had been so agreable to her, was so surpriz'd at it that she fell into a swoon after she had given a great shriek. *Alsire*, who notwithstanding all the reasonings which she had framed within

within her self, did still retain a secret foreknowledge that this brave Stranger could be none other than *Ali Hamet*, was agitated with a thousand confused notions, joy fear, love, did all at once move in her Soul, but the surprize that every one was in, did cause that the less notice was taken of hers. The King more surpriz'd than all the rest, did however constrain himself, and expressed a great many civilities towards the Prince, who said as he came up to him, Sir, here am I once again your Prisoner. The King assur'd him that he was free, and unwilling to enter into any kind of clear understanding, in presence of so numerous a company, he had him to the Palace, where having commanded all Persons to retire, he inquired of him by what Miracle he had escaped death. *Alzira*, who was in most cruel perplexities on her Lovers behalf, did leave *Balabai* under her

Womens

Womens care, and ran into her Fathers Chamber, she conjur'd him to remember the promise that he had made her of not attempting any thing against the life of *Ali Hamet*. The King angry at a transport so unsutable to the modesty of his Daughters sex, did give her a kind of angry answer. *Alzira* affrighted at the Kings anger; It is no longer time to dissemble, Sir, said she to him, our Great Prophet has already appeared unto me divers times, and has threatned me with a long continuance of dreadful evils, if I did not Marry this Prince. *Benbuca* astonished at *Alzira's* boldness, and discourse, was at a stand what to answer her, when that *Ali Hamet* taking advantage of his disorder, did assure him that *Mahomet* had warned him to go forth of that place where he was in danger of being destroy'd, that he himself had led him out of the Palace, giving him great assurances,

that

that he ſhould ere long be happy with a Princeſs of the Blood of the *Cherifs*, that he was not return'd to *Feſs* but by order of that Prophet, and finally, that he did hope that having obey'd unto all that had been preſcribed to him, *Mahomet* would take care of the reſt.

Bembuca, who was a Perſon that did never give credit to Miracles, any further than they agreed with his intereſts, gave the two Lovers to underſtand that it would be a great preſumption to oppoſe the Decrees of Heaven: But that for his part, he durſt not give his conſent unto that Mariage, until the Prophet had firſt given him to underſtand his pleaſure therein: *Alzira* was going to reply, but the King did interrupt her, ſaying, that after ſo much fatigue, *Ali Hamet* might ſtand in need of reſt, and under that pretence, he gave order to one of his Officers, to conduct him to

a certain Appartment which he nam'd. They were thus all three ſeparated. The King extreamly ſurpriz'd, *Ali Hamet* paſſionately in-amour'd, and the Princeſs divided between hope and fear. So ſoon as ſhe was return'd into her Chamber, ſhe paſſed into *Balabai's*, where ſhe found the Prince of *Feſs*, who who was in vain tormenting himſelf to chear up his Wife, who was become very much out of humour ever ſince her recovery from her ſwoon. The Prince intreated his Sifter to make uſe of all the power that ſhe had over *Balabai* to oblige her to change her humour. *Alzira*, who was wholly taken up with her Love, did promiſe to her Brother to do what he deſir'd, and at the ſame time did let him know that it concern'd his honour to take a ſpecial care of *Ali Hamet*, and above all to prevent that the King, through his Councils advice, ſhould take any violent

violent resolutions against that generous Prince. *Balabai* concealing the disorders of her heart, did also intreat the Prince to be near the King to discover his design, and did pretend to do out of complaisance to *Alzira*, that which she did through that interest which she had in the person of *Ali Hamet*.

The Prince, who had no thoughts but to please those two Persons that were so dear unto him, went forth to meet with the King. *Balabai*, finding her self alone with *Alzira*, let fall those tears which with much adoe she had kept in, in the Princes presence. Sympathise, dearest Princess, *said she to her*, with me in the most sensible sorrow that ever was felt. You know better than any one else, the strong passion which I had for *Ali Hamet*, even from the very first moment that I did see him; we have

thought him dead, and you may remember how ſenſible I was of his loſs. All my affliction did not take away thoſe few charms which have cauſed my misfortune. The Prince of *Feſs* found me to his liking, you had the goodneſs to ſpeak to me in his behalf, my vanity rather than my love did make me condeſcend to his intreaties; I have given him my hand, and my faith, being prepoſſeſt that *Ali Hamet* was no longer living. Mean time the Heavens have taken care to preſerve a life ſo precious to me, you have ſeen him as well as I, all my ſenſes have withdrawn themſelves in beholding that dear Object, my heart aſhamed of its treachery hath abandoned me, and it ſeems as if I had returned from my Swoon but to be the more ſenſible of my misfortunes; for what ſhall become of me, if I cannot lay aſide my affections, nor defend my ſelf of thoſe engagements that I am

concern'd

concern'd in with the Prince of *Fes*? In this extremity, I expect no succour but from you, most dear Princess, you ever did take pity of my weakness, with your favour continue your bounty to me in this occasion, and give me some comfortable advice. Counsels are useless, reply'd *Alzira* coldly, when that our duty does prescribe us what we ought to do; you know yours, follow it, that is all the Counsel that can be given you. *Alzira* not being able to maintain any longer a Conference that wounded her Love, would have retir'd in ending these Words; but *Balabai*, who was melting into tears, being startled at so harsh an answer, cast her self about the Princesses neck, intreating her not to abandon her, and to remember that she had always honoured her with her affection. I must confess to you, reply'd *Alzira*, that your ingratitude does surprize me, your

Prince forgetting what you are, does make choice of you to raiſe you to an honour unto which you could never have pretended. The King at my requeſt conſents to it, for which you have return'd me thanks; and now through an unruly paſſion, you are asking of me advices againſt my own Brother, and ſuch as would deſtroy my own work. When that our paſſions grow unjuſt, our reaſon muſt be of power to ſuppreſs them, before they ever come to be able of obliging us to act any thing againſt our own honour. Alas! reply'd *Balabai*, it well appears that you know not Love, it is a Tyrant who acts but by Caprichios, he neither harkens unto reaſon nor honour, and he is ſo well obey'd, that very frequently the heart approves of thoſe things which reaſon condemns. This converſation had laſted longer yet, if the Prince of *Feſs* had not come in, who informed them that the

King

King had newly resolv'd the Marriage between *Alzira* and *Ali Hamet*, on condition that he should renounce all his pretentions on the Kingdoms of *Fes* and *Morocco*; he beg'd their Pardon that he could stay no longer, because that he was going to propose it to *Ali Hamet*, as from his Father; and so he presently went out. This discourse did surprise the Princess and *Balabai*, in two different manners. They observ'd each other, endeavouring to conceal from one another the motions of joy and of rage which these news did produce in their Souls. Mean time, as it is more difficult to conceal a despair than a joy, *Balabai* lifting up her Eyes to Heaven, Great *Alla*! *said she*, can it be possible that *Ali Hamet* should espouse my Princess? Cruel Fates! what would you have of me? Am I not miserable enough already, in loving a Prince without hopes of ever pos-

ſeſſing him? Muſt I, in loſing him, loſe alſo that Perſon which is deareſt to me in the World? Yes, my dear Princeſs, continu'd ſhe, addreſſing her ſelf to *Alzira*; I am ſo little Miſtriſs of my ſelf, that in ſpight of all the obligations I owe you, I feel that it were impoſſible for me to hinder my ſelf from hating you, if you ſhould eſpouſe my Lover: But I create chimerical terrours to my ſelf; you will never conſent to that Marriage, the Match is too unequal, and it is to be believed that our great Prophet who has taken care of your life does reſerve you to ſome great Empire. Alas! reply'd *Alzira*, diſſembling her joy, Perſons of my rank never Marry by their own choice, we are the States Victims, and we have but the ſatisfaction to obey with a good grace unto our Parents Wills. Could you, continued *Balabai*, obey with a good grace in ſuch a like occaſion?

And

And would you be ſo cruel as to eſpouſe a Man ſo indifferent unto you, and which you know I adore? That you adore, interrupted *Alzira*, do you remember that you ſpeak unto your Husbands Siſter? A Perſon that has ſuch unruly paſſions, is unworthy of my Friendſhip; your paſſion, which was but a weakneſs before you had given your hand to my Brother, is now become a crime which is moſt horrid in my ſight. Seek out for another Confident; and remember, that I favour you in not informing the Prince of your treachery. *Balabai* would have anſwerd her, but *Alzira* went forth without giving her time ſo to do, ſhutting the door after, that *Balabai* might not follow her.

The Prince of *Feſs*, who had not found *Ali Hamet* at home, was return'd immediately to the Princeſſes; but having obſerv'd that *Balabai* was ſpeaking with

vehemency, he ſtopped at the door, and did hear the whole converſation between his Wife and his Siſter; thoſe terms of Crime, Horrour, and Treachery, that the Princeſs had us'd, did give him ſuch an horrid Idea of his Wives perfidiouſneſs, that he had already reſolv'd to Sacrifice her unto his revenge, in plunging his Dagger into her boſom. *Alzira*, who met him as ſhe went forth, and that gueſt, by the wildneſs that appear'd in his looks, that he had heard all, did ask him where he had left *Ali Hamet*. The Prince, without anſwering, went about to break open the door of his Wives Chamber. But *Balabai*, being affrighted at the Princes violence, and *Alzira's* outcries, who was endeavouring to hinder him, fled away by a back Stairs, which were joyning her Cloſet, and by that means did ſave her ſelf from that incenſed Princes fury. The Princes action made a great noiſe

noiſe in the Palace. The King that was inform'd of it would know the truth. The Prince, who was very well pleaſed with his Siſter, let his Father know that ſhe could beſt inform him of it. *Bembuca* ſent for his Daughter, and after that he had expreſſed to her the ſorrow that he had cauſed by *Balabai's* Perfideouſneſs to the Prince, in favour of *Ali Hamet*. *Alzira* obſerving that the King had ſome diſtruſt that *Ali Hamet* might be in League with *Balabai*, ſhe did Sacrifice her Friends ſecret, having no other thoughts but to juſtifie her Lover; and to make appear that he had no ſhare, nor ſo much as any knowledge of *Balabai's* fooliſh paſſion. The King that did find much probability in all that the Princeſs ſaid, did cauſe his Son to conſent that *Balabai* ſhould live, who was guilty but of an involuntary Paſſion. And the very next day ſhe was conducted unto a little City

in

in the Confines of the Kingdom of *Morocco*, where a very mean Penſion was aſſigned her. Mean time *Ali Hamet* did accept all thoſe terms that *Bembuca* did require of him, in giving him his Daughter. Yet he having exact meaſures to obſerve with *Gayland* alſo, he got leave of the King to return to *Suſs*, to get his Uncles conſent, being confident that he lov'd him ſufficiently not to oppoſe his happineſs. He had the pleaſure to entertain his Miſtriſs before his departure, and whereas they lov'd each other with the moſt ſincere and ſtrongeſt paſſion that ever was, the Reader may judge how tender was their converſation. *Ali Hamet* did promiſe her that his Voyage ſhould be very ſhort, and *Alzira* did aſſure him that ſhe ſhould not enjoy any pleaſure and content till his return: After his departure, the King who would have this Marriage accompliſhed with a great deal of Splendour,

dour, gave out his orders to have all neceſſary things got in readineſs.

While that the whole City of *Feſs* was admiring the magnificent preparations which were in hand for this Marriage, *Balabai* grieved at the ill treatments which ſhe had received at *Feſs*, and jealous of her Rivals good Fortune, ſhe was fill'd with rage and fury, continually thinking of ſome means to revenge her ſelf of *Bembuta*, and of hindring *Ali Hamet's* Marriage; as ſhe came to the place of her Exile, ſhe learn'd that *Taffilet*, who ſince has made himſelf ſo famous by his Conqueſts, had poſſeſſed himſelf of the Territories of an Ancient *Jew*, and that he began to impoſe Laws on divers petty Princes of his Neighbour-hood. *Balabai*, conſulting nothing but her own deſpair, went to *Taffilet*, who ſhe found at the head of a conſiderable Army. He received her very civilly, eſpecially after ſhe had aſ-

ſur'd

ſur'd him, that the report of his great exploits had obliged her to come and crave his protection, againſt *Bembuca's* injuſtice. And the more to engage him to concern himſelf in her intereſts, ſhe was ſo ſubtle as to tell him, that *Alzira* who was the moſt Beautiful Princeſs of the World, and the moſt ſenſible of greatneſs, had divers times mentioned him to her, complaining of her Fathers beſtowing of her by force on *Ali Hamet*, who had no other merits but of being of the Houſe of the *Cherifs*, in lieu of giving her unto a Prince of the merit and reputation that *Taffilet* was. *Taffilet*, who was the moſt ambitious of all Men, was raviſh'd to learn that love did furniſh him with ſuch a plauſible pretence of ſatisfying his ambition; and he having already heard ſomething of *Alzira's* Beauty, he expreſſed much joy to learn thoſe advantageous thoughts that *Balabai* did

aſſure

assure him that Princess had of him. He promised her that he would never lay down his Arms till he had reveng'd her of the King of *Fess*, and deliver'd *Alzira* from the Tyranny of so unjust a Father. He made great advantages of *Balabai's* coming to him, for having given out amongst his Souldiers, that one of the greatest Princesses of *Africa* was come to demand his protection, and magnified to them the great honour which they receiv'd by such an Action, and given them great hopes of recompencing them liberally, they all promis'd to follow him where-ever he should lead them. He marched long Journeys; and he had such care of providing all necessaries for the sustenance of his Men, that his Army, far from growing weak by its fatigues, did Daily increase. He overcame divers petty Princes that lay in his way, and the news of his march

did

did so affrighten all *Africa*, that divers great Princes did seek after his Friendship at his own rates. Finally, without amusing himself about small places, which might have made him lose time, he set Siege to the City of *Fes*, which is the Capital of the whole Kingdom, at that time that *Ali Hamet* was there every moment expected to Celebrate his Marriage with the Princess.

Bembuca, who always had a great Body of Horse in readiness, thinking to surprize *Taffilet* before that his Retrenchments were made, did send the Prince of *Fes* at the head of all his Cavalry to charge *Taffilet*'s tyred Troops. But *Taffilet*, who very well understood his business, and who had foreseen this Sallying forth, did so vigorously receive the Prince of *Fes*, that after a great Combate, *Bembuca*'s whole Cavalry was defeated and made to flie, and the Prince his Son taken Prisoner.

ſoner. The very next Morning *Taffilet* ſent a Trumpet to the King of *Feſs*, to let him know that if he did not ſend to him that very Day the Princeſs *Alzira*, he would the next Day ſend him back his Sons Head in a Sack. The whole Court of *Feſs* was in an extream conſternation, when that *Taffilet*'s Trumpet arriv'd there. The King, having heard what he had to ſay to him, did find himſelf in ſo great a confuſion, that he remain'd a long time not knowing on what to reſolve. His Miniſters of State, being affrighted at *Taffilet*'s threatnings, did in vain preſs him to determine, and to ſave his Son in ſending the Princeſs to *Taffilet*. This unfortunate Father was in ſo great a conſternation, that he had not ſo much power as to propoſe it to his Daughter, foreſeeing that ſhe ſhould be forc'd to depart, with ſuch Violences, which he found himſelf incapable of doing. Mean time

time, as the buſineſs was preſſing, he went to his Daughters Apartment, and told her, that it was in her power to reſtore the Peace unto his Dominions, and to ſave her Brothers life. *Alzira* not comprehending that ſhe could do ſo much good at once, made anſwer to her Father with a great deal of ſubmiſſion. *Bembuca* mov'd with her anſwer, retir'd without having the power to ſay more to her; a moment after he ſent her one of his Miniſters of State, accompanyed with *Taffilet's* Trumpet, to let her underſtand what was expected from her, or rather to force her to depart. For, after having ſhewn her the neceſſity there was of ſacrificing her for the good of the Kingdom, ſhe was placed, without heed given to her tears, in a ſumptuous Chariot, which had been prepared for *Ali Hamet's* Marriage. There were Women given her to ſerve her, and nothing was forgot that might

might contribute to gain the Conquerours favour.

Thoſe Perſons which did accompany the Princeſs did exhort her in vain to conceal her grief, and to conſtrain her ſelf when ſhe ſhould be in *Taffilet's* preſence, to obtain the more advantageous conditions in favour of the King and his Subjects. *Alzira*, who thought ſhe had nothing more to care for after the loſs of *Ali Hamet*, did repreſent unto her ſelf nothing but horrour, and did ſhew by her anſwers, that ſhe was very far from buying with her complayſance *Taffilet's* favour. She on the contrary did attempt to caſt her ſelf from the Chariot, in order to deſtroy her ſelf, complaining of the charitable cruelty of thoſe that would prevent her. A *Portugais* Slave, who had long ſerv'd her, told her, that ſeeing ſhe was not afraid of death, ſhe ſhould ſtay to the laſt extremities to uſe that remedy, and in the mean time

time endeavour to oblige *Taffilet* on other pretences to defer her Marriage for some time, to give unto the brave *Ali Hamet* time to raise an Army on Foot, and to Fight *Taffilet*. *Alzira*, who did expect all from Love and her Lovers Valour, did approve of her faithful Slaves advice, and did promise to follow it, being however resolv'd rather to lose her life than Marry *Taffilet*. After that she had taken a resolution so conformable unto her Love and despair, she suspended all her sorrow, to take care of her dress, being perswaded, as all Ladies are, that Beauty is a great help to succeed in all their designs. *Taffilet* being prepossest with the thoughts that the Princess did love him, as *Balabai* had assur'd him, set his Army in *Battalia* to honour her the more; he went to meet her, and did receive her in a very gallant manner, with the noise of an infinite number of Drums and Trumpets;

Trumpets; he assur'd her that he had not taken up Arms but to deliver her from her Fathers force, and to return her thanks for those advantegeous thoughts which she entertain'd of him, in laying at her Feet the Crowns of all those Soveraigns that he had Vanquished. *Alzira*, who could not make any thing of that discourse, made him no answer but by divers reverences, of which *Taffilet* was very well pleas'd, being perswaded that the Princesses silence was an effect of her Bashfulness and Modesty. After this he did accompany her into a magnificent Tent which he had caused to be purposely prepared, where she found *Balabai*, who gave her the reception, and did joy her in *Taffilet*'s presence, of the happy Change which had happened in her fortune, seeing that in lieu of Espousing a Prince without Territories, she was going to give her Hand unto the Conquerour of all

Africa

Africa. *Alzira*, who had not been able to retain her tears at the hearing of her Lovers Name, gave occasion to *Taffilet* to enquire after the cause of it. *Balabai*, without giving her time to speak, made answer, that the remembrance of those Violences that her Father would have us'd in *Ali Hamet's* behalf, did doubtless draw those tears from her. *Taffilet*, being at this transported with an amorous Zeal, did swear by the great *Mahomet* that he would punish that bold Person, and that he should not think himself worthy the possessing of so charming a Princess, till he had laid at her Feet the Head of *Ali Hamet*. What! Sir, said *Balabai*, interrupting him, as affrighted at that threatning, would you retard so long your happiness? My own honour, reply'd *Taffilet*, and what I owe unto that good opinion that this Princess has had of me, oblige me to impose on my self

that

that neceſſity; however if that ſhould not pleaſe her, her pleaſure ſhall ever Rule my Will. The Princeſs, raviſh'd to hear *Taffilet* of his own accord offer to defer the Marriage, was ready to take advantage of the proffer which he made her, but then recollecting that by that anſwer ſhe in a manner did ask him for *Ali Hamet's* Head, ſhe remained unreſolv'd, rather being willing that *Taffilet* ſhould think that ſhe approv'd not of that delay, than to ſay any thing that might advance her Lovers Ruine. *Taffilet* thinking that the Princeſs would declare her mind unto *Balabai*, did aſſure her that he was going to ſend back her Brother the Prince, and ſo went out. So ſoon as *Balabai* found her ſelf alone with the Princeſs, ſhe caſt her ſelf down at her Feet, to conjure her to divert *Taffilet's* cruel deſigns, and to give her Hand to that Prince without any further delay, leſt that he

ſhould

ſhould endeavour to give her ſome marks of his Love and Valour at *Ali Hamet's* coſt, who might be ſurpriz'd by a Victorious Army, if the Princeſs had not the goodneſs to ſtop this Conquerour. You queſtion not, continued ſhe, but that that violent paſſion which I have for *Ali Hamet* has engaged me to require *Taffilet's* aſſiſtance, to prevent your Marriage. But I do confeſs to you that your particular intereſt hath alſo very much contributed in making me take that reſolution, through the Honour and great advantages that will accrew unto you thereby, when throughout the whole Earth it will be ſaid, that after that the moſt famous *Taffilet* had vanquiſhed all *Africa*, he has laid ſo many Crowns at your Feet, and has terminated all his Conqueſts with the poſſeſſion of your Heart. Live happy with that worthy Spouſe, enjoy long your

proſperity

prosperity, and only prevent that the same Hand which I have Armed to procure unto you so much good, serve not to destroy my Lover, who I love a thousand times more than my life. *Alzira* affrighted at her Rivals transport, perceiving that it was very necessary to dissemble with her, did tell her that she had a most particular esteem for *Taffilet*, and promis'd without doing her self any great violence therein, that she should never require any thing from him against *Ali Hamet. Balabai*, who was not satisfied with that answer, was continuing her request, when that one of *Taffilet's* Officers enter'd the Tent, who was sent by his Master to Compliment *Alzira* on the Death of her Brother, and to assure her that he had no hand in the business; that Prince having been kill'd as he was returning to *Fes*, by a Vanguard who had Charg'd him unknown. These

news did variously surprize the two Princesses. For *Alzira* was extreamly afflicted at the Death of her Brother, and *Balabai*, who looked on that Prince as on an obstacle unto that strong passion which she had for *Ali Hamet*, did from that moment flatter her self, that she should ere long be happy. Mean time *Taffilet* did make so good use of that consternation in which *Bembuca*, and the inhabitants of *Fes*, were, that he made himself Master of that Place, still declaring, that he would not alter any thing; he also perswaded *Bembuca* that he had no hand in the Prince his Sons misfortune, and did assure him that he would retire out of the Kingdom of *Fes* so soon as he had Married the Princess. *Bembuca* being deceived by those discourses, did Write to the Princess, and after that he had conjur'd her by all the tender affection which he had for her, to defer no longer the giving

of her Hand unto the famous *Taffilet*, he also made use of his Paternal authority to command her to do it. *Taffilet* himself did carry this Letter to *Alzira*; but that Princess, who did find a certain kind of consolation in the death of her Brother, seeing that it helped her with a pretence of bewailing her own sorrows, did intreat *Taffilet* to afford her two Days to dry up her tears. *Taffilet*, who did affect a very great submission unto *Alzira's* Will and Pleasure, did consent to her desires, and did even assure her that he had resolv'd to gain her Heart by his obedience and services, but that the King had thought it fit to defer no longer their Marriage.

While that *Taffilet* was disposing of all things in a readiness to Espouse *Alzira* with all the pomp and magnificence that he could think on, that Princess, who did detest her Fathers weakness, did

melt into tears, and resolv'd to destroy her self, before the term which had been granted her were come. The *Portugues* Slave, who did never abandon her, did in vain indeavour to make her change her resolution. But the Princess did conjure her not to mention any more to her the living without *Ali Hamet*, and she did so work upon the Spirit of this faithful Slave with her tears and sobs, that she promis'd to die with her. They propos'd to open their Veins, and to render to each other that reciprocal Cruel Office. The night seeming to them the most fit time to execute their violent design, they did resolve to stay till the Sun were set, and embraced one another, very well satisfied with that resolution which they had newly taken. A *Jew*, *Portugues* born, who was an Officer in *Taffilets* Troops, and that accidentally did Command that Day the Guard

that

that was at the Princeſſes Chamber door, did over hear their diſcourſe, by reaſon that the Princeſs, who ſpoke *Portugues* to her Slave, not thinking that that Language would be underſtood by any Perſon, had not been ſo cautious as to ſpeak low. This Officer being amaz'd at this Tragical deſign, was mov'd with a ſenſe of Compaſſion, and did reſolve either to ſave the Princeſs or to loſe himſelf. A little time after, he enter'd her Chamber, as if to ask her for ſome orders. *Alzira* did mildly recommend to him, that no Perſon ſhould approach her Tent till the next Morning, becauſe that ſhe was very ſleepy, and was deſirous to go early to Bed. The *Jew*, who had Wit, looked fixedly on her, and feign'd to have juſt then diſcovered ſomething of extraordinary in her Face. Then did he ſpeak *Portugues*, and told the Princeſs, that ſhe was threatned with a moſt Tra-

gical accident, but that if she could avoid it, she would be fill'd with content, and in a short time would find her self the most happy Princess in the whole World. *Alzira* startled at so surprising a discourse, did admire this Strangers wonderful knowledge, and ask'd him, with tears in her Eyes, if it would be as easie for him to inform her how she should attain to that happiness which he promis'd her, as it had been for him to guess at the accident with which she was threatned. I shall not find any thing difficult to serve you, reply'd the *Jew*, and seeing that you have such an aversion against *Tafflet*, I offer to have you to a Port that is but a Mile distant from this Place, and from thence I shall conduct you to *Oran*, which is the neareſt City, and that belongs to the *Spaniards*: Mean time things may have a new Face, and I promise you, that if you will follow my advice, you will

will ſoon enjoy that happineſs which I have already foretold you. *Alzira* mov'd at a diſcourſe which flatter'd her Love and Hopes, durſt not however truſt to a ſtrangers bare Word. But the *Portugues* Slave, who peradventure began to repent, did give her ſuch good reaſons to oblige her to follow the *Jews* Counſels, that at laſt ſhe reſolv'd to do it, being perſwaded, that ſeeing he had gueſt at her misfortunes, he would likely prove true in what he had told her of her good Fortune. The *Jew* went forth to diſpoſe ſo of all things, as that they might make their retreat without a ſurpriſal; he alſo ſent a conſiderable Perſon to the Port, to make ſure of a Barque, and a while after he return'd into *Alzira*'s Chamber, who he found ready to undertake all things. She preſented him with a rich Diamond, and after that ſhe had exacted from him with a thouſand

Oaths, that he ſhould not betray her, ſhe went forth, followed by her Slave, and came to the Port, without complaint of the length of the way, though ſhe had gone on Foot. The fear which they had of being ſurpriz'd, did oblige them to embark haſtily on the firſt Veſſel they met with: So ſoon as they were embark'd, the *Jew*, who had not betray'd *Taffilet*, but in order to enjoy the Princeſs, who had appeared ſo charming to him, had the boldneſs to mention his Love to her, and to propoſe to her, to retire with him into *Europe*, where he aſſur'd her that ſhe ſhould live in a private condition a thouſand times more happy than all the *African* Princeſſes. *Alzira* diſdaining ſo inſolent a propoſition, did reproach his perfidiouſneſs to him in very outragious terms, and ſhe did ſo diſturb the Mariners through her tears and outcries, who could not underſtand one another at their

Work,

Work, that they threatned to put her in Chains. *Alzira*, not daunted at their threatnings, gave them all the Jewls which she had taken along with her, to appease them; and perceiving that those liberalities did make them more respectuous, she did exhort them, shewing them the *Jew*, to Chain up that Villain, who had betrayed her; and did speak to them with so much assurance, that they deferr'd not the obeying of her. But judging by *Alzira's* extream Beauty, that in the Sale of her they might get a considerable Sum, they resolv'd to conduct her to *Tangire*, which belongs to the *English*, lest that if they should carry her into any Port of *Africa*, she should be known, and they punished. They did not alter a resolution so conformable unto their avarice, and the next Day being arriv'd at *Tangire*, they exposed to Sale the Princess of *Fes*, the *Portugues* Slave, and the

Jew. The Care that the perfidious Mariners did take in setting forth *Alzira*'s Beauty, and the greatness of her Birth, though they knew her not, did invite divers *English* Men to go to see her. They all found her so Charming, that through the Emulation which her Beauty gave them, they did offer an excessive Sum for her, and yet those insatiate fellows would not be satisfied with it, which caused some disorder. The Governour of *Tangire* was at that time gone into *England*, and had left to Command in his place the Count *Talbot*, who was a very experienced Souldier, the same who had been Slave unto *Ali Hamet*. This Commander being informed of that Slaves Beauty, and of the exorbitant rate that her Masters would sell her at, gave order that she should be brought to him, that he might judge of the business. The Count, who had divers times

seen *Alzira* in the Palace of *Fess*, did easily know her again, and remain'd in an extream surprisal at the seeing her, in a condition so different from her own. He endeavour'd to assure himself better of it, in speaking *Portugues* to her, having heard that the Princess of *Fess* did know that Language. *Alzira*, who had a confus'd Idea of having formerly seen elsewhere the Count *Talbot*, and that guessed by the respectous manner in which he spoke to her that she was known, did inform him of her disasters in few Words. The Count admiring the Princesses generosity, or rather love, who had chosen rather to expose it self to all kind of misery, than to give her hand unto the Conquerour of *Africa*, did assure her that he would contribute with all his power to sweeten her misfortunes, and at the same time did mention to her the great obligations in which he was

indebted towards *Ali Hamet*, and of the pleasure which he should do to himself in shewing her his acknowledgments, by rendring some kind of services unto a Person that was so dear unto him. *Alzira*, who had hearkned but with much indifferency unto all this Commanders Civilities, was so mov'd to learn that it was on *Ali Hamet*'s consideration that she did find a protector and a friend in the place of a severe Judge, which she had feared, that from that moment she began to hope that the *Jews* predictions would be found true, and she begged his pardon from the Count, who had already resolv'd to have him punish'd, as well as the Mariners, who were Chained up, in punishment to their perfidiousness. The Count *Talbor* having after this caused a magnificent Appartment to be prepared for the Princess, she was then treated with the same respect as if she had been still at her Fathers Court.

Taffiet,

Taffilet, mean time, grieved at the Princeſſes flight, and at the cheat which had been put upon him, in aſſuring him that ſhe lov'd him, did turn all his fury againſt *Balabai*, who he did treat moſt unworthily; and after that, he added her to the number of thoſe Women that followed the Army to ſupplie his wantonneſs. *Bembuca* was no better treated, for *Taffilet*, who was always ſeeking for ſome pretences to his Ambition, did accuſe him of having had an hand in *Alzira*'s flight, and ſecur'd his Perſon, after that he had poſſeſſed himſelf of his Eſtates.

Ali Hamet alarm'd at *Taffilet*'s progreſs, and particularly at the noiſe which was ſpred abroad, that he was going to Eſpouſe the Princeſs of *Feſs*, did raiſe an Army with an incredible diligence, and made great haſt to meet *Taffilet*, who having had notice of his March, did ſave him half the labour,

bour, and went before him with the confidence of a Perſon who is at the head of a Victorious Army, ſurpriſing in the mountains the fatigated and ill experienced Troops of *Ali Hamet*'s Army, which he did Charge ſo advantageouſly, that he entirely routed them. *Ali Hamet*, after that he had done divers ſurpriſing Actions, made his eſcape with much ado, and returned to *Suſs*, unto his Uncle *Gayland*, who was ſo affrighted at this defeat, and at the news which he not long after received of *Taffilet*'s being enter'd on the Territories of *Suſs*, that he deferr'd not a moment of Embarking himſelf, with what he had of Riches, to retire to *Algar*, reſolv'd to end his Days in a private condition. *Ali Hamet*, who was leſs afflicted at the loſs of his Country than at that of his Miſtriſs, perceiving that there was no Prince in *Africa* of power to protect him againſt the redoubted

doubted *Taffilet*, remember'd that formerly a certain Prince of *Europe* had re-eſtabliſhed *Muley* on the Throne of *Tunis*; and making ſome reflexions on all the ſtrange actions which Fame did already report of the Emperour of the *French*, he did think that that Monarch was the only Perſon that could aſſiſt him againſt *Taffilet*, which made him reſolve to paſs into *France*, to deſire ſuccor from that great Prince. But having not met with any fit Veſſel to perform the Voyage, he went to *Tangire* on a light Frigat, with an intention to make uſe of the firſt opportunity to go to *France*. The Count *Talbot*, who had had already advice of *Ali Hamet*'s rout, did conceal that ill news from the Princeſs, and did ſtill comfort her, in aſſuring her that it was impoſſible that *Taffilet*'s good Fortune ſhould laſt long. Mean time, he was advertis'd that *Gayland* was retired to *Algar*; and concerning him-

himself very much in *Ali Hamet's* business, he was in a great anxiety of mind to know what was become of that Prince, when he was informed, that there was a Frigat from *Sus* newly put in at the Port. He had not patience to stay till the Pilot was sent to him, but run to the Port to inform himself more particularly of all that passed at *Sus*, and at *Tarudent*. *Ali Hamet*, whom he presently knew, did make him fear, seeing him, that his business was desperate; the Count received him with all the imaginable respects, and treated him as if he had still been his Slave. The Prince, after he had Embraced him, put him in mind that they were together the first time that he had seen *Alzira*, and did confess to him, that he was less concerned at the loss of his Dominions, than at the Princesses grief, who was exposed unto *Taffilet's* Violence. The Count ravished

that

that he could inform him of ſomething that would conſolate him in that Conſternation that he ſaw him, did aſſure him, that the Princeſs of *Feſs* was not in *Taffilet*'s power; and having told him the reſolution which ſhe had taken, rather to die than to give her Hand to that Prince, he acquainted him after what manner ſhe had arriv'd at *Tangire*, and preſently did accompany him to her Chamber. Never did any one paſs in ſo ſhort a time from an extream affliction to ſo great a joy: *Ali Hamet*, who thought that he had loſt all, was ſo raviſh'd to have found his fair Princeſs, who was more precious to him than all the Crowns on Earth, that he abandoned himſelf to the pleaſure of re-ſeeing her again with the ſame tranſports as if he had had no loſs: and *Alzira*, who had not dreaded *Taffilet*, but through the fears that his Arms ſhould prove fatal to her Lover,

was

was so satisfied with seeing him, that she thought not so much as to ask news of the Battel; imagining to have gained all, now that she had met again with her dear *Ali Hamet*. The Count *Talbot*, who took a particular delight to contribute to the good Fortune of those Illustrious Lovers, did propose to the Prince the Espousing *Alzira*, without staying till his ill Fortune should once again take that charming Princess from him. *Ali Hamet* being convinc'd by such reasons as did so pleasingly flatter his Love, did resolve to propose it to *Alzira*. But when that he found himself near her, and that he made some reflexions on his misfortunes, he durst not propose any thing to her, and repented having had the thoughts of so doing, having much less trouble in bearing himself alone his own ill Fortune, than to share it with that amiable Princess. His courage would

would inſpire him to attempt new things to re-gain his Eſtates, and his Love would make him find out a thouſand difficulties of performing the deſign which he had of paſſing into *Europe* to ask for ayd. The Count *Talbot*, finding him in thoſe reſolutions, did adviſe him to go to *Gayland*, who was retir'd to *Algar* with vaſt Riches; and did aſſure him, that if that Prince would but furniſh him with a conſiderable Sum, he might eaſily raiſe another Army, and hazard a ſecond Battel againſt *Taffilet*. The Prince approving much this Counſel, ſet himſelf about the executing of it; and for fear he ſhould be molified with his Miſtriſſes Tears, he departed without taking leave of her. *Gayland*, who notwithſtanding his great Riches, did already begin to grow weary of living in an obſcure condition, did not ſpare any thing to forward *Ali Hamet*'s Generous deſigns, and

he

he was so well assisted, that in a short time he found himself at the Head of an Army, accompanied with divers Officers of Merit, which the Count *Talbor* gave to serve with him.

The Nobility of *Fes*, who could not brook the Violences and Scorns of *Taffilet*, sent up their prayers for *Ali Hamet*. *Taffilet* alone despising an Enemy whom he had already beaten, went against him at the head of his Army, where he had incorporated *Benbuca*'s Cavalry, which was still Commanded by *Maucaden*. Though that *Ali Hamet* had much the lesser Number of Troops than his Enemy had, he expected him Manfully, with a resolution to vanquish or to die. *Taffilet* did Charge him with the confidence which is so common to Victors. But *Ali Hamet*'s Trorps, animated by the Princes example, who was in all places, did combat with great Valour,

Valour, and *Taffilet* was beginning to fear the ſucceſs of the Battle, when he cauſed his Body of reſerve to advance, in which was *Bembu*-ca's Horſe. *Maucaden*, fretted at *Taffilet*'s Violences, and particu-at the wrongs which he had done his Siſter, did exhort his Men to abandon that Tyrant, and take *Ali Hamet*'s Party, who was of the Blood of the *Cherifs*, and conſe-quently the true Succeſſor to the Crown of *Feſs*. He inſtantly did Charge with ſo much reſolution thoſe that would have oppoſed his deſigns, that the greateſt part did follow him. *Taffilet* advertiz'd of this misfortune did deſpair of Victory, and thought no more but of ſaving part of his Men with re-treating. But *Ali Hamet*, who was deſirous to put an end to the War, taking advantage of his Enemies diſorder, did preſs him with ſo much Valour, that *Taffilet* was forced to change his mind, and to

hazard

hazard all. There he was kill'd, performing of surprising actions, and *Ali Hamet* did gain a most signal Battel by his death, besides his fair Mistriss, and divers considerable Kingdoms. The Count *Talbot*, who had sent on the Coast of *Fess* a Yatch, to be informed of the success of that great Day, did learn with all the imaginable joy, the rout and death of *Taffilet*. He carried these good news unto the Princess, who burning with impatiency of seeing her Father again, and of joying her Lover, did conjure that trusty Friend not to retard her from that pleasure, and to send her back to *Fess* that very Day. The Count ravish'd to contribute to her satisfaction, Embarked her in a Yatch, and gave her one of his Relations to accompany her. *Ali Hamet*, who was not sensible unto so many happy successes, but in relation to his Mistriss, did send a Person of Trust to Count *Talbot*, to

give

give him an account, and render'd himself at the neareſt Port of *Tangire*, there to wait for news from *Alzira*, who was juſt Imbarking when that her Lover arriv'd there. It would be difficult to expreſs the reciprocal joy which they had at the ſight of one another. The remembrance of their late diſgraces did contribute alſo to make them reliſh with more delight the pleaſure which they had of being together, and of thinking how worthy they were of one another. They came to *Feſs*, where *Ali Hamet*, after that he had Re-eſtabliſhed *Bembuca* on the Throne, gave his Hand to *Alzira* with all the ſatisfaction imaginable. Soon after, he ſent Magnificent preſents unto the Count *Talbor*, and did not forget any thing that could expreſs his acknowledgments to ſo faithful a Friend.

FINIS.

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